



## ***Daily Report***

---

# **Near East & South Asia**

FBIS-NES-90-120  
Thursday  
21 June 1990

# Daily Report

## Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-90-120

### CONTENTS

21 June 1990

NOTICE TO READERS: An \* indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

#### INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

##### Inter-Arab Affairs

Chedli Klibi Addresses Coordination Committee [KUNA] ..... 1

##### Palestinian Affairs

Haram Questions U.S. Position on Dialogue [Kuwait AL-QABAS AL-DUWALI 15 Jun] ..... 1  
 'Abd-Rabbuh Affirms Commitment to Peace Initiative [Amman AL-DUSTUR 20 Jun] ..... 2  
 PLO Executive Committee To Meet on Strategy [WAKH] ..... 2  
 PLO Official 'Abd-Rabbuh Rejects U.S. Demands [JANA] ..... 2  
 PLO May Seek Sanctions If U.S. Suspends Dialogue [Paris Radio Monte Carlo] ..... 3  
 PLO To Await Bush Statement Before Commenting [AFP] ..... 3  
 U.S. Announces Suspension of Dialogue With PLO [KUNA] ..... 3  
 Palestinian Groups, Officials React to Suspension ..... 5  
     Khalaf Expresses 'Regret' [AFP] ..... 5  
     Further From Khalaf [Amman AL-RAY 21 Jun] ..... 5  
     Executive Committee To Meet [WAKH] ..... 5  
     PFLP, DFLP Comment [Paris Radio Monte Carlos] ..... 6  
     Leaders Condemn Decision [MENA] ..... 6  
 Commentary Views Middle East Arms Race [Algiers VOP] ..... 7

#### ARAB AFRICA

##### Algeria

APS Views Issues Posed by FIS Victory ..... 8  
 Polisario Front Reopens Information Center [Dakar PANA] ..... 8

##### Egypt

Paper Views U.S. Suspension of PLO Dialogue [MENA] ..... 8  
 Paper Expects Shamir To Renege on Peace [AL-AHRAM 19 Jun] ..... 9  
 Shamir Asks Cairo To Broker Al-Asad Meeting [Paris Radio Monte Carlo] ..... 9  
 'Abd-al-Majid Praises EC Statement on Mideast [Cairo Radio] ..... 9  
 Advisers Reportedly Evaluate Libyan Preparedness [Beirut AL-SHIRA 18 Jun] ..... 9  
 Unsubsidized Sugar Price Raised by 60 Percent [AL-AHRAM 18 Jun] ..... 10  
 Sidqi on National Unity, Gradual Reforms [Cairo Radio] ..... 10  
 AL-AHRAM Views U.S. Policy Toward PLO [MENA] ..... 10  
 Paper Criticizes Shamir, Cheney Statements [MENA] ..... 10  
 Commentary Condemns Israeli 'War' Government [Cairo Radio] ..... 11  
 Paper on U.S. Threat To Stop PLO Dialogue [MENA] ..... 11

##### Morocco

Maghreb Agencies Plan Unified News Agency [MAP] ..... 12  
 Spanish-Moroccan Air Maneuvers Scheduled [MAP] ..... 12

## Western Sahara

|                                                                        |    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Parliament President Criticizes Morocco [Vienna WIENER ZEITUNG 13 Jun] | 12 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

## ARABIAN PENINSULA

### Kuwait

|                                                         |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Shaykh Sabah Receives Pickering, Criticizes U.S. [KUNA] | 13 |
| New Cabinet Members Announced, Listed [Kuwait Radio]    | 13 |

### United Arab Emirates

|                                                       |    |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Gulf Papers Criticize U.S. Dialogue Suspension [WAKH] | 13 |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----|

## IRAQ

|                                                                             |    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| U.S. Dialogue Suspension Termed 'Hostile Policy' [INA]                      | 15 |
| Paper Claims Five 'Doomsday Guns' Assembled [Istanbul HURRIYET 19 Jun]      | 15 |
| Al-Mashshat Denies Misuse of Banking Facilities [London AL-MAJALLAH 26 Jun] | 15 |

## ISRAEL

|                                                                        |    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Officials Comment on Expected Bush Announcement [Tel Aviv Radio]       | 16 |
| Rabin Calls for Palestinian Talks [Jerusalem TV]                       | 16 |
| U.S. Suspends PLO Dialogue; Officials Respond                          | 16 |
| Shamir, Arens React [Jerusalem Radio]                                  | 16 |
| Sinyurah Says War Encouraged [Jerusalem Radio]                         | 17 |
| Shamir on Decision's Effects [Jerusalem Radio]                         | 17 |
| Frayj Says 'Extremists' Aided [Jerusalem Radio]                        | 18 |
| Peres Hails Decision [Jerusalem Radio]                                 | 18 |
| Netanyahu Interviewed [Tel Aviv Radio]                                 | 18 |
| MK Rabin Interviewed [Tel Aviv Radio]                                  | 19 |
| Shamir Disagrees With Baker [Tel Aviv Radio]                           | 20 |
| Editorial Views Suspension [YEDIOT AHARONOT 21 Jun]                    | 21 |
| Ben-Aharon Interviewed [Jerusalem Radio]                               | 21 |
| Arens Says Israel Owes Nothing [Jerusalem Radio]                       | 21 |
| Editorial Expresses Gratitude [AL-NAHAR 21 Jun]                        | 22 |
| Shamir Discusses Immigration, Arab Fears [Paris LE MONDE 21 Jun]       | 22 |
| Mubarak Message Foresees Cooperation With Levi [Jerusalem Radio]       | 23 |
| Jordan's Anti-Israeli Remarks Related to Aid [Jerusalem International] | 23 |
| IDF Patrol Said Fired at From Jordan 20 Jun [Jerusalem International]  | 24 |
| 'Crazed' Jordanian Said Responsible for Shooting [HA'ARETZ 21 Jun]     | 24 |
| Shamir Asks USSR To Ignore Arab Statements [Jerusalem Radio]           | 24 |
| Alignment MK's Support Rabin for Party Head [Jerusalem Radio]          | 25 |

## JORDAN

|                                                                                 |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Papers, Officials on U.S. Dialogue Suspension                                   | 26 |
| AL-DUSTUR [21 Jun]                                                              | 26 |
| AL-RAY Claims 'Blackmail' [21 Jun]                                              | 26 |
| Editorial Views 'Gift' to Shamir [JORDAN TIMES 21 Jun]                          | 27 |
| Amman Radio Reports Statement                                                   | 27 |
| Minister Calls for Retraction [Amman Radio]                                     | 28 |
| Foreign Minister Discusses Israel, Iraq [Paris LE FIGARO 19 Jun]                | 28 |
| 'Official' Source Denies Shots at Israeli Patrol [Paris Radio Monte Carlo]      | 29 |
| Jordan Opens Tripoli Embassy; Husayn To Visit [London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 18 Jun] | 29 |
| Ambassador Named [JORDAN TIMES 19 Jun]                                          | 29 |

## LEBANON

|                                                                                        |    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Statement Issued on Al-Hirawi's Damascus Visit [Beirut Radio]                          | 30 |
| French Envoy Scheer Returns From Damascus [VOM]                                        | 30 |
| Fatah Group Reportedly Attacks SLA Post [RFL]                                          | 30 |
| 'Security Sources' Claim Israel Shelled Towns [Beirut Radio]                           | 30 |
| 'Awn Discusses Relations With Syria, Israel [Ithdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon] | 30 |

## SYRIA

|                                                                  |    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Ambassador Dismisses Shamir's Call to Al-Asad [AL-DUSTUR 21 Jun] | 31 |
| Radio Urges Massing Resources Against Israel [Damascus Radio]    | 31 |
| Commentary Claims Israeli Leaders Against Peace [Damascus Radio] | 32 |

## SOUTH ASIA

### Afghanistan

|                                                                    |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Najibullah Sends Message to Perez de Cuellar [Kabul Radio]         | 33 |
| Najibullah To Represent Security at Party Congress [Kabul Radio]   | 33 |
| Hekmatyar Takes 'Tougher' Stance Against AIG [Karachi DAWN 19 Jun] | 33 |
| 'Rival Groups' Explode Ammunition Caches [Kabul Radio]             | 34 |
| Military Operations in Nangarhar Reported 18 Jun [Kabul Radio]     | 34 |
| Four Missiles Purchased From Opposition Groups [Kabul Radio]       | 34 |
| Mujahidin Operations in Paghman Reported 19 Jun [Islamabad Radio]  | 34 |
| Jaji Tribe Drives Out 'Extremist Groups' [Kabul Radio]             | 34 |

### Bangladesh

|                                                           |    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Ershad To Make Five-Day Visit to PRC 28 Jun [Dhaka Radio] | 34 |
| Policemen Die in Clash With Tribal Rebels [AFP]           | 35 |

### India

|                                                                      |    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Pakistani Rejection of Kashmir Government Lauded [Delhi Radio]       | 35 |
| Paper Urges Pakistan To Match Indian Gesture [INDIAN EXPRESS 13 Jun] | 35 |
| Further Reaction to Tamil Fighting                                   | 36 |
| Government Condemns Killings [Delhi Radio]                           | 36 |
| Congress-I Calls Pullout 'Blunder' [Delhi Radio]                     | 36 |
| Harboring Tamil Militants Banned [Delhi Radio]                       | 36 |
| Nagaland 'Coalition Ministry' Sworn In 19 Jun [Delhi Radio]          | 36 |
| 'Powerful' Bomb Injures 12 Policemen in Assam [Delhi Radio]          | 36 |
| Seven More Persons Killed in Punjab Violence [Delhi Radio]           | 37 |
| 'Terrorists' Clash With Srinagar Police; 5 Killed [Delhi Radio]      | 37 |
| 16 Die in Kashmir Gun Battles [AFP]                                  | 37 |

### Iran

|                                                                     |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Reportage on Tehran Earthquake, Government Reaction                 | 37 |
| IRNA Reports Damage, Death Toll                                     | 37 |
| Over 1,000 Die in Zanjan, Gilan [IRNA]                              | 38 |
| Death Toll Updated; New Tremor Reported [Tehran Radio]              | 39 |
| Relief Fund Established [Tehran Radio]                              | 39 |
| President Condoles Nation [Tehran Radio]                            | 40 |
| Khamene'i Urges Help for Victims [Tehran Radio]                     | 40 |
| Perez de Cuellar Invites Iran, Iraq to Talks [Tehran International] | 40 |
| Velayati Interviewed on Outcome of ECO Meeting [Tehran Radio]       | 41 |
| Irish MP's Meet Tehran Officials on Hostages [AFP]                  | 41 |
| Khamene'i Names Kalantari IRC Commander [IRNA]                      | 42 |
| National Front Claims Growing Split in Regime [Jeddah UKAZ 16 Jun]  | 42 |
| Majles Ends Debate on Unified Security Force [Tehran Radio]         | 42 |

|                                                    |                        |    |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------|----|
| Khamene'i Recalls 1981 IRP Bombing, 'Martyrs'      | [IRNA]                 | 43 |
| Expediency Discernment Council Meets 19 Jun        | [Tehran Radio]         | 43 |
| Commerce Minister on New Import-Export Regulations | [Tehran Radio]         | 43 |
| Exporters To Use Foreign Exchange for Imports      | [Tehran Radio]         | 43 |
| Imported Goods To Be Transported by Rail           | [Tehran Radio]         | 44 |
| Iranian, Soviet Caspian Research Centers Planned   | [IRNA]                 | 44 |
| Commentary on Impetus To Industrial Production     | [Tehran Radio]         | 44 |
| *ABRAR Report on 9 May 90 Majles Session           | [ABRAR 9 May]          | 45 |
| *Majles Commission Debates Security Forces Merger  | [RESALAT 26 May]       | 48 |
| *Judicial Organization Plan Presented to Majles    | [KEYHAN 26 Apr]        | 51 |
| Less Than 8 Percent of 1988 Projects Operational   | [London KEYHAN 24 May] | 52 |
| *Special Provisions Extended to Returning Doctors  | [KEYHAN 28 Apr]        | 53 |
| *Students Object to Palestinians at Universities   | [London KEYHAN 24 May] | 53 |

## Pakistan

|                                                 |                             |    |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----|
| Indian Response to Talks Proposal Appreciated   | [Delhi Radio]               | 54 |
| Iran's Velayati Continues Official Visit        |                             | 54 |
| Calls for Ties With Soviet Republics            | [BBC]                       | 54 |
| Discusses Relations With Yaqub Khan             | [IRNA]                      | 54 |
| Talks With Afghan Mujahidin                     | [IRNA]                      | 54 |
| Discusses Proposal To End Afghan War            | [BBC]                       | 55 |
| Talks With Bhutto, Departs                      | [Tehran Radio]              | 55 |
| Businessmen To Strike Against Budget 21 Jun     | [AFP]                       | 56 |
| Bhutto's Husband Sues Opposition for Defamation | [AFP]                       | 56 |
| Locally Assembled Radars Given to Army          | [THE PAKISTAN TIMES 20 Jun] | 56 |
| Lahore Bomb Blast Kills Four, Injures Seven     | [Islamabad Radio]           | 56 |

## Sri Lanka

|                                                 |                         |    |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|----|
| Troops Break Rebel Siege, Fighting Subsides     | [AFP]                   | 57 |
| Government Troops Control Major Northeast Towns | [Delhi Radio]           | 57 |
| Minister Says LTTE 'Supremo' Prabhakaran Dead   | [AFP]                   | 58 |
| Reports Troops Liberate East                    | [AFP]                   | 58 |
| Indian State Hides Sri Lankan Tamil Refugees    | [AFP]                   | 58 |
| TELO Issues Statement Supporting Government     | [Columbo International] | 59 |

### Inter-Arab Affairs

#### Chedli Klibi Addresses Coordination Committee

LD2006225390 Kuwait KUNA in English 1758 GMT  
20 Jun 90

[Text] Tunis, June 20 (KUNA)—Arab League Secretary-General Chedli Klibi said here today that it is a historic responsibility to work for restoration of confidence in the collective (?Arab Work and its) institutions through mutual efforts of Arab countries and regional organizations to protect national security.

Klibi was speaking on the occasion of the inaugural session of the Coordination Committee of the Arab League and specialized Arab organizations which is attended by secretary generals of ten organizations. He said that the national institutions for joint Arab work have passed through difficult stages during the past three years.

The Arab League chief recalled that the emergency Baghdad summit had called on the concerned specialized organizations to help in conducting studies which could enable the Arab to benefit from the advancement of science and technology and their proper utilization for development.

He indicated that Arab foreign, economic and finance ministers have been invited according to the Baghdad resolution to study, during their meeting this summer, issues of the mass exodus of the Soviet Jews to occupied Palestine and the Arab world's dealing with the international economic blocs, indicating, in this respect, the European single market, which is due to be launched in 1993.

Concluding, Klibi said that all those difficulties and challenges require us to work seriously towards realizing Arab integration, and to form an integrated Arab economic bloc, capable of confronting all international blocs.

### Palestinian Affairs

#### Hurani Questions U.S. Position on Dialogue

JN1806193190 Kuwait AL-QABAS AL-DUWALI  
in Arabic 15 Jun 90 p 3

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee member 'Abdallah Hurani by Muhammad al-Qabisi in Tunis; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Al-Qabisi] Have the directions and program of Shamir's government finally became clear to you?

[Hurani] The directions and program of Shamir's government concern security in the first place. This is a government that wants to reinforce internal security on the basis of destroying the intifadah. Externally, it wants to strengthen the Army and enable it to face any aggression, no matter how advanced it may be. It is therefore a government of war in two directions: in the direction of the Palestinians and in the direction of the Arabs, particularly Iraq.

Another direction for this government involves the absorption of immigrants on the basis that there is no difference between one place and another in the land of Greater Israel. Therefore, there will be no guarantee that they will not be settled in the occupied Palestinian territories. The Israeli Government does not even consider Jerusalem an occupied territory, and no immigrant living in Jerusalem is considered living in the occupied territories. [passage omitted]

[Al-Qabisi] There has been much talk about the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue and American threats to break off this dialogue. Is there anything new in this regard?

[Hurani] Before I answer, I want to ask: Where is this dialogue that the United States is threatening to break off? When the U.S. Administration talks about breaking off the dialogue, it ignores the fact that the official dialogue sessions have been stopped since August 1989. I also wonder about the nature of the U.S. position over the one and a half years since the dialogue began in December 1988. What was the result of U.S. policy during that period? The United States has used the veto seven times against the Palestinian people and their national legitimate rights. It used it seven times to support and encourage Israel's criminal policy.

Therefore, what does this threat mean? The United States may want to sever the already severed dialogue. Or does it want to use some more vetoes? Can there be more than seven vetoes in one and a half years? Does the United States want to reward us for Shamir's extremist government by severing the dialogue?

Simply put, with such positions, the U.S. Administration does not present itself as an acceptable mediator in the peace process, but is showing a full bias in favor of Israel. As far as we are concerned, the PLO has nothing to say more than that which it has already said; it has nothing to offer other than that what it has already offered.

The United States must therefore decide how it wants to continue its role in the peace process. Instead of taking note of the main substance of the Palestinian initiative—the convening of the international conference—it opted for what it termed a process to prepare for an international conference during which the Palestinian-Israeli dialogue can be held. This was not achieved however, because preparing for the international conference in such a way did not lead to results. The United States went even further when it made preparations for the international conference an alternative to the conference itself. The preparations failed and the conference was not held.

[Al-Qabisi] Have you thought of an alternative?

[Hurani] We must discuss the way to activate the other international channels to prepare for the international conference. These channels include the UN Security Council and its permanent members, the European and Soviet roles, and so forth. All these channels must be employed to prepare for the international conference. This

is not a Palestinian task alone. Exactly here lies the Arab responsibility, particularly after the recent Baghdad summit. Here also lies the role of the seven-member committee under King Hassan II which must act.

[Al-Qabisi] Finally, for this end, and for the other ends, are there any future Palestinian moves?

[Hurani] Yes. There is a meeting of the PLO Central Council which may be held just after 'Id al-Adha.

#### 'Abd-Rabbuh Affirms Commitment to Peace Initiative

JN2006092190 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic  
20 Jun 90 p 21

[Text] Tunis, (PETRA)—Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh, member of the PLO Executive Committee, has said that the extremist policy pursued by the new Israeli government lead by Yitzhaq Shamir and its clear rejection of all peace initiatives, should not lead the PLO into the trap of abandoning its policy.

In a statement to the Tunisian newspaper AL-SABAH published yesterday, 'Abd-Rabbuh affirmed that adherence to the Palestinian peace initiative in the present circumstances in particular, will help pool world forces in order to isolate the new Israeli Government and win more forces in Western and Eastern Europe and even in the United States in support of the just Palestinian aims.

'Abd-Rabbuh added that the Palestinians had expected a long and tedious battle with the Israeli occupation forces right from the start. He said that what is currently carried out by the Israeli rightwing is a last-ditch attempt to enter a decisive battle in order to impose the Israeli plan which is based on the continuation of the occupation and the rejection of any political solution which does not involve the total surrender of the Arabs and the Palestinians.

'Abd-Rabbuh denied that the Palestinian leadership became confused by the Israeli Government's threat to crush the intifadah and to restore the situation to what it was before the outbreak of the intifadah on 9 December 1987 by attacking it militarily and economically.

Although 'Abd-Rabbuh did not underrate these Israeli plans, he affirmed that the PLO is capable of foiling them by strengthening the role of the masses in the intifadah, providing generous aid to national institutions and forces in preparation for the worst, and urging democratic forces in Israel to rise to the level of direct political confrontation with the new Israeli war government.

'Abd-Rabbuh affirmed the need for effective Arab action in accordance with the Baghdad extraordinary Arab summit resolutions and to fulfill the political and material needs of the Palestinian intifadah. He said that the PLO has called for convening the Seven-Member Arab Committee and for expediting the joint meeting of the Arab foreign, economy, and finance ministers which was agreed on by the recent Baghdad summit.

#### PLO Executive Committee To Meet on Strategy

JN2006140290 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1320 GMT  
20 Jun 90

[By Faruq Shukri]

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Jun (WAKH)—The PLO Executive Committee will meet here tonight or tomorrow morning under Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat to discuss Palestinian developments on both the Arab and international fronts as well as those pertaining to plans of the Israeli Government.

Authorized Palestinian sources have informed WAKH that the Committee will discuss Palestinian developments as well as the brutal measures perpetrated by the Israeli occupation authorities in the occupied Arab territories.

The PLO Executive Committee met in Baghdad early June under the chairmanship of President 'Arafat to discuss the outcome of the extraordinary Arab summit.

Political observers here expect the PLO Executive Committee to discuss preparations under way for a new session of the Palestine National Council within the next two months.

The observers added that the PLO, "which has recently come under intense pressure and threats by the U.S. Administration to cut off the dialogue, and which has also met with an Israeli determination to reject Palestinian and international peace initiatives," believes it is high time to review its strategy and reconsider its moves on the international scene.

The PLO has rejected U.S. threats to break off the dialogue, and viewed them as "positions that deal a blow to peace efforts and constitute a collusion designed to cover up the role of Israel, which has continued to commit crimes and massacres against the Palestinian people."

Hani al-Hasan, political adviser to Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat, said yesterday that the Palestinian leadership will discuss in its new meetings the possibility of drawing up a new plan within the context of a new tactic meant to confront Yitzhaq Shamir's government.

Al-Hasan affirmed that the PLO can inflict a crushing defeat on Shamir's government. He added that the Palestinian leadership will consider how to defeat Yitzhaq Shamir's government in the coming decisive battle.

#### PLO Official 'Abd-Rabbuh Rejects U.S. Demands

LD2006150590 Tripoli JANA in English 1404 GMT  
20 Jun 90

[Text] Kuwait, Al-ayf [June] 20, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh the member of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) strongly rejected U.S. incredible demands for the need to condemn the recent bold guerrilla operation on the coasts of occupied Tel al-Rabiyah [Tel Aviv].

'Abd-Rabbuh accused U.S. imperialism of practicing continued blackmail against the Palestinian Arabs through their [word indistinct] and repeated interference to support Zionist stances and conspiracies aimed at the whole Arab nation.

In an interview with AL-ANBA' Kuwaiti newspaper published today, 'Abd-Rabbuh demanded that all Arabs should reject any illusions regarding America's intentions and initiatives. He demanded that they should start implementing Baghdad summit resolutions and not to pay any attention to the storms and the noise America is making and stirring from one time to another.

He expressed belief that the Arab region is [word indistinct] for a big confrontation war.

He said "The Arabs are urged to work and prepare for such confrontation of fate which is about to begin and to translate their resolutions into actions".

He also ruled out America abandoning its interference in the Middle East to give the Zionist terrorists the opportunity to carry out their horrific schemes.

#### **PLO May Seek Sanctions If U.S. Suspends Dialogue**

JN2006181890 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic  
1800 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] Commenting on the anticipated U.S. decision to suspend the U.S.-PLO dialogue, Jamil Hilal, the official in charge of the PLO Information Department, has stated that the organization may ask the Arab countries to impose economic sanctions on Washington. He added that this U.S. decision will encourage Yitzhaq Shamir's rightist government to escalate repression against the Palestinians in the occupied territories. He said this decision can only be considered unfriendly and colonialist. It is also a stab to the peace process and a provocation to the Arab countries, he concluded.

#### **PLO To Await Bush Statement Before Commenting**

NC2006182890 Paris AFP in English 1800 GMT  
20 Jun 90

[Excerpts] Baghdad, June 20 (AFP)—The PLO leadership under Yasir 'Arafat on Wednesday prepared to meet in the Iraqi capital amid reports that Washington had decided to suspend its dialogue with the organization, Palestinian sources said.

The sources said the PLO Executive Committee would meet within 24 hours to discuss Arab and international developments, including the situation in the Israeli-occupied territories and the policies of the new Israeli government.

Officials in Washington said President George Bush was to announce later Wednesday that the United States was suspending its 18-month old dialogue with the PLO because of an attempted Palestinian commando raid on Israeli beaches.

Palestinian officials here said they were awaiting the official U.S. announcement—expected at a press conference to be held by President Bush in Huntsville, Alabama—before reacting to the move.

Analysts here said the Palestine Liberation Organisation could decide to revise its political strategy following the U.S. decision and Israel's continued refusal to accept talks with a PLO-led Palestinian delegation.

In Tunis, where the PLO has its headquarters, Palestinian sources reacted without surprise to the reports, saying that rumours of a possible break-off by Washington of the dialogue had been rife for the past two days. [passage omitted]

The Palestinian sources in Tunis said the PLO leadership could not accept the U.S. ultimatum without losing credibility with its militants and fueling opposition from hardline factions including Moslem fundamentalists.

They said Washington could lose more than the PLO from the move, as it would increase anti-Americanism in the region and alienate Palestinian figures in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip from any further U.S. contacts.

A PLO spokesman warned earlier this month that a break-off of the dialogue would be a serious setback to Middle East peace efforts.

#### **U.S. Announces Suspension of Dialogue With PLO**

LD2006210190 Kuwait KUNA in English 1919 GMT  
20 Jun 90

[Text] Washington, June 20 (KUNA)—The peace process in the Middle East was dealt a serious blow here Wednesday when President George Bush announced that he has decided to "suspend" the 15-month-old dialogue between the United States and the PLO.

Speaking at a press conference in Huntsville, Alabama, President Bush charged that the talks will be cut off pending what he described as "satisfactory response" from the PLO on steps it is taking with regard to recent acts of terrorism. He set no deadline.

He made specific reference to the sea-borne attack by members of the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF) led by Mohammad 'Abbas (Abu-Abbas). The PLO said it had nothing to do with the attack but failed to specifically condemn it.

In his statement, which was expected all day long here, President Bush said he had made the decision based on the recommendation of Secretary of State James Baker.

The American President said that the statement issued by the PLO last week denouncing attacks against civilians in general was "not sufficient" to meet U.S. terms for a continuation of the diplomatic talks.

"At any time the PLO is prepared to take the necessary steps, we are prepared to resume the dialogue," Bush declared.

He did not spell out these "necessary steps" today, but the U.S. has asked ("the PLO") to specifically denounce that attack and also to take disciplinary measures against Abu-Abbas in order to show that it is ("serious about") its renunciation of terrorism.

The dialogue was started by former Secretary of State George Shultz in December 1988 following the decision by the PLO—taken at the PNC [Palestine National Council] in Algiers and later expounded in Geneva—to recognize Israel, accept U.N. Resolutions 242 and 338, and renounce terrorism.

President Bush used the occasion to once again call on all parties in the Middle East to eschew violence and emphasized that he would like to "see the peace process move forward."

The U.S. decision to suspend the dialogue was immediately denounced here by the Arab League's ambassador to the United States Clovis Maksoud, who indicated that Bush took the decision under pressure from Israel.

He said the Palestinians are not expected to be deterred from the peace process by the American decision but suggested that the time is ripe for these peace efforts to be channelled through an international peace conference under the United Nations umbrella.

In his statement, President Bush expressed regret at the suspension of the dialogue, noting that "on balance, we believe that these exchanges ("have contributed") to progress in peace process..."

Bush said the United States "has given the PLO ample time to deal with this issue. To date, the PLO has not provided a credible accounting of this incident or undertaken the actions outlined here..."

He added, "the U.S. does take note of the fact that the PLO has dissociated itself from this attack and issued a statement condemning attacks against civilians in principle, but as we previously indicated, this alone is not sufficient."

Bush frankly admitted that "the U.S.-PLO dialogue has demonstrated that it can advance the Arab-Israeli peace process and at the same time the dialogue is based on the assumption that the PLO is willing to abide by the conditions it accepted in December, 1988, including renunciation of terror."

The American President emphasized that "any time that the PLO is prepared to take the necessary steps, we are prepared to promptly resume the dialogue."

In the meantime, he said, the U.S. "hopes and expects" that the peace process would proceed as intended, and without delay (as) we remain committed to the pursuit of a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and to a just and lasting peace..."

Bush then outlined the basic conditions for the peace that the U.S. envisions.

He said, "such a peace (?must be) based on those two resolutions, U.N. Resolutions 242 and 338, and the principle implicit therein of territory for peace and provide for Israel's security and Palestinian political rights..."

Bush continued, "We believe that Palestinian participation is vital to any successful process and that there are (?real) opportunities for Palestinians in the process."

He reiterated his hope that Israelis, Palestinians and the Arab states will recognize these opportunities and take the ("necessary steps") to create an environment in which a viable peace process can thrive.

Bush concluded "We denounced violence in the area, and call upon all parties to eschew violence and terror, and opt instead for dialogue and negotiation. We are prepared to continue working with the parties toward this end."

Asked by newsmen if his announcement, coupled with Secretary Baker's criticism of Israel last week mean that the peace process is "dormant" now, President Bush replied,

"It is not moving forward right now (but) the offer still stands."

He (?noted) that he had sent Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir a letter specifically asking questions that related to "seriousness about the peace process."

His announcement on the suspension of the dialogue, Bush said, was simply "an arrow shot at terrorism..."

In response to another question, President Bush admitted that his decision to suspend the dialogue might anger some of the U.S. allies in Europe and also "part of some of the most reasonable and moderate Arab states."

But then he added, "It would simply remind them of the conditions upon which the dialogue started in the first place. And I would also remind them that if they look at this statement and remedial action is taken, the dialogue, from the U.S. side, can promptly be restored."

Bush was also asked if he thought the decision to suspend the dialogue with the PLO might play in the hands of the hardliners within the PLO, like Abu-Abbas, who wanted the dialogue broken.

The President replied, "Yes, I am concerned about that..."(but) we had to weight the whole question and the question was complicated by the fact that there were three specific undertakings, one of which, a very important one in my view, has clearly been violated..."

He admitted that "it is not an easy call...and I know some feel that the PLO dialogue is totally unproductive, but I do not, as I indicated in this statement..."

The answer, he said, [is] for the PLO to take the action that he outlined today "to satisfy us that those who were responsible will be disciplined, and condemn this specific act. It is not enough to simply reiterate one's concern on terror..."

In answer to yet another question, Bush expressed his personal hope that those Palestinians who put (their hope) in the dialogue between the PLO and the U.S. will not throw their hands up in desperation and resort to violence.

"I hope that is not the case..."

### **Palestinian Groups, Officials React to Suspension**

#### **Khalaf Expresses 'Regret'**

NC2006210790 Paris AFP in English 2043 GMT  
20 Jun 90

[Text] Jerusalem, June 20 (AFP)—The Israeli government Wednesday expressed satisfaction with the U.S. decision to break off a 17-month-old dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Government spokesman Avi Pazner told a news conference that the decision announced in Washington by U.S. President George Bush earlier Wednesday was "positive and important".

Mr. Bush said he was suspending contacts with the PLO because of the organisation's failure to denounce terrorist attacks on Israel, notably the May 30 "seaborne terrorist infiltration into Israel" by the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF), a PLO faction.

At PLO headquarters in Tunis, PLO Number Two Salah Khalaf, or Abu Iyad, expressed "regret" at the U.S. decision, and warned of "a rise in tension and extremism" in the Middle East as a result.

Abu Iyad said Washington's announcement would "encourage" the right-wing Israeli government to "take measures which would contribute to halting the Mideast peace process".

"We don't want the dialogue to be broken off, but the decision by the U.S. administration puts the dialogue in an impasse" because of the conditions attached for its resumption, Abu Iyad told Agence France-Presse.

He added that the United States and the PLO did not "have the same interpretation" of terrorism.

Mr. Bush said that if the PLO condemned the PLF attack, Washington was prepared to "promptly resume the dialogue".

#### **Further From Khalaf**

JN2106082990 Amman AL-RAY in Arabic  
21 Jun 90 p 1, 21

[Text] Amman—AL-RAY has contacted Salah Khalaf (Abu-Iyad), Fatah's second in command, by telephone and he had this to say:

We regret this decision [to suspend dialogue], which does not serve the U.S. interests but the Israeli intransigence, and which will help the Israeli Government to implement its schemes against the Arab states, especially since

it is being made following the Baghdad summit resolutions, which highlighted the Israeli threats to Jordan and some Arab states.

In the past we said that we would not shed tears over the suspension of the dialogue, because the dialogue had no positive aspects in the first place. We hold the United States responsible for the violence and extremism which will sweep the region as a result of this decision.

Despite this U.S. decision, the PLO will continue to adhere to the Palestinian peace initiative and will employ all the available means to realize the aims of this initiative in cooperation with the Arab brothers.

Asked about the U.S. condition that the seaborne operation should be condemned in order to resume the dialogue, Abu-Iyad said:

Had we accepted their conditions in the first place, what happened would not have happened. The question is a matter of principle and for our part, the dialogue was not tied to conditions. The operation did not result in killing any Israeli military personnel or civilians, and to condemn something that could have happened is unacceptable.

We differentiate between armed struggle and terrorism and we are opposed to and will actually fight against any external operation that is aimed at foreigners and civilians.

As for armed struggle, we did not pledge to stop it in the first place, especially in the face of the Israeli extremism, which is now ruling.

#### **Executive Committee To Meet**

JN2106094390 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0902 GMT  
21 Jun 90

[By Faruq Shukri]

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Jun (WAKH)—Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat held extensive negotiations last night with a number of PLO Executive Committee members and his ranking aides to study the dimensions of the U.S. Administration's decision to suspend dialogue with the PLO.

Responsible Palestinian sources told the Gulf News Agency correspondent in Baghdad that the PLO Executive Committee will today start a series of meetings to evaluate the situation in light of the new developments.

These sources reported that the most important issues to be discussed by the Executive Committee, in addition to the U.S. Administration's decision to suspend dialogue, are the program of the new Israeli government and preparing the necessary plans to confront it.

The U.S. Administration late last night announced that it has suspended dialogue with the PLO due to what it termed the PLO's non-condemnation of the operation against the Tel Aviv coast on the 30th of last month, May.

These sources affirmed that the PLO will not submit to the U.S. pressures. They said that we also will not be

dragged behind what hostile circles want, whether inside or outside the United States.

This is the second time in less than two weeks that the PLO Executive Committee has held meetings in Baghdad under President 'Arafat.

The PLO had earlier rejected U.S. threats to break off dialogue. In an official statement, it believed that this would constitute a blow to peace efforts and collusion to cover up the Israeli role which continues its crimes and massacres against the Palestinian people.

It is expected that the PLO will issue an official statement later today to define its stand on the U.S. Administration's decision to suspend dialogue with it and its plans to continue its peace efforts in the international arena.

#### PFLP, DFLP Comment

JN2106064890 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic  
0600 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] The PLO leadership has thus far not issued an official statement on the suspension of the U.S.-PLO dialogue pending an imminent Executive Committee meeting. However, in their statements, the Palestinian officials have been unanimous that the U.S. decision is a blow to peace efforts and encouragement to the extremist forces in the region.

Salah Khalaf, Abu-Iyad, Fatah's second in command, has voiced regret over this decision and warned of renewed tension and violence in the region.

Jamil Hilal, official in charge of information in the PLO, described the decision as a provocative act, adding that the PLO will ask the Arab states to impose economic sanctions against the United States.

In Damascus, the assistant secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), said the decision has crowned a series of hostile decisions by the Bush administration against the Palestinian people. The spokesman of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) said that by this decision the U.S. Administration has proved that it is not a mediator but is taking sides.

In the occupied territory, Sari Nusaybah said the U.S. decision creates a new obstacle on the road to peace. Jamil al-Tarifi voiced his regret that a superpower, such as the United States, is submitting to pressure by a rightist Israeli government instead of putting pressure on this government to realize peace.

Clovis Maqsd, the Arab League representative in Washington and the United Nations, described the U.S. decision as a punishment for the Arab moderation, especially the Palestinian moderation, and a reward for Israel's intransigence.

#### Leaders Condemn Decision

NC2106103890 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0950 GMT  
21 Jun 90

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jun (MENA)—Palestinian leaders in Cairo have described U.S. President George Bush's decision to suspend the dialogue with the PLO as another installment in a series of hostile stands toward the Palestinian and Arab people. They called on the Arab nation to act to put an end to the total U.S. bias in favor of Israel's aggressive policy and the U.S. disregard for legitimate Arab rights.

PLO Executive Committee member Jamal al-Surani said that the U.S. decision was no surprise and was in keeping with earlier stands. Through this step, U.S. President George Bush demonstrated blatant hostility to the Palestinian people and the Arab nation.

In a statement to MENA, al-Surani said that the United States made this decision in reaction to an incident which was rejected by the PLO, the Arab nation, and the Palestinian people and in which not a single drop of blood was shed. Meanwhile, the United States ignored the ugly crimes Israel commits daily against the Palestinian people, including the massacre of Palestinian workers and the savage attack on 166 children in a Gaza clinic.

Al-Surani explained that the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue was stillborn and offered nothing to the Palestinian cause but stalemating the peace efforts. He called on the Arab nation to act quickly to put an end to the U.S. affront to Arab will.

Muhammad Subayh, secretary of the Palestine National Council, said that the U.S. decision to suspend the dialogue with the PLO is another hostile stand against the Palestinian people and the Arab nation, indicating that the United States used its veto at the Security Council seven times in one year in favor of Israel and against the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

Subayh said that with this step the U.S. Administration is encouraging Israeli aggression and terrorism by an extremist, rightist, and racist government which makes no secret of its expansionist aims and which ignores all international charters and norms and violates the Palestinian people's rights on a daily basis.

Subayh appealed to the Arab states to adopt an appropriate national stand to answer this aggression against the Arab nation. He said that what is required is quick Arab action to denounce this total U.S. bias in favor of Israel, especially on the part of the U.S. legislative bodies which work against the Arab nation and the Palestinian people.

Zuhdi al-Qidrah, Fatah representative and acting Palestinian ambassador in Cairo, said that by suspending the dialogue with the PLO the United States has lost its credibility in dealing with the Palestinian issue. The United States has given the green light to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir to reject the Palestinian-Israeli dialogue and all peace calls.

In his statement to MENA, al-Qidrah said that the United States has adopted a negative attitude toward the Palestinian people. Given its status as a superpower concerned with war and peace in the world, we had hoped that the United States would maintain its dialogue and contacts with the PLO. The United States, however, has always aligned itself in favor of Israel and disregarded the Palestinian people's national rights which are recognized by the international community.

Al-Qidrah explained that the U.S. President's decision is a gift to Yitzhak Shamir to conceal his intransigent stand, which is hostile to peace and which aspires to usurp the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. Al-Qidrah stressed that the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territories are determined to secure their rights despite all the inhuman and arbitrary Israeli measures taken against them.

#### Commentary Views Middle East Arms Race

LD2106055590 *Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic*  
1702 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Security in the modern military concept no longer means positions on the ground, as such positions have become useless in the age of intercontinental missiles and chemical, nuclear, and biological weapons. Clinging to such an ancient concept is liable to cause most grave losses, not only to the country which embodies such a concept in its security strategy, but also to international security and peace.

Security was one of the most important factors which forced the two superpowers to agree on dialogue in order to reduce those weapons and abandon positions in more than one region of the world once part of the framework

of the Atlantic and Warsaw Pacts. If the two superpowers, with all their arsenals, which are enough to destroy the world thousands of times over, have agreed on the need to reduce destructive weapons and show a great deal of goodwill between them in order to feel a greater sense of security and welfare, not only for their two people, but for all mankind. If these two superpowers have reached common denominators to reduce their arsenals, small states can benefit from the lessons which the two superpowers have learned and should abandon outworn security concepts and theories which still profess that security can only be achieved by occupying more land and by increasing the military arsenal with various destructive weapons.

If we agree with U.S. Defense Secretary Cheney, who spoke on this matter before the Jewish B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League, when he pointed out that weapons and technology alone are not sufficient to guarantee the future and security of Israel, his affirmation that the United States is committed to helping Israel maintain its qualitative military superiority in the region is a clear contradiction of his security concept. How can Israel change those ancient concepts at a time when it hears from Cheney himself such a commitment to maintain its qualitative military superiority in the region? Such superiority cannot lead to negotiations with the Arabs and the Palestinians, about which Cheney speaks.

Such talks require a show of good intentions before they can begin, and such intentions require a practical demonstration which necessarily dictates a halt to the building and developing of the military arsenal, because the continued development of that arsenal is liable to push others to develop and build up their military arsenals, a matter which places the whole region on a powderkeg liable to explode at any moment.

## Algeria

### APS Views Issues Posed by FIS Victory

LD1906134590 Algiers APS in English 1119 GMT  
19 Jun 90

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Algiers, 19 Jun (APS)—The results of the June 12 elections for the renewal of local and regional councils are what they are. In spite of the discussions and comments they have raised, these results reinforce a national vote which resulted from the ongoing process of transformation in the country which started since the adoption of the new constitution on February 23, 1989.

These elections have also introduced new elements in the local political landscape. And in one way or another it raises a delicate question in this phase of edification of democracy.

Since the FLN [National Liberation Front] party is now in the second position should the People's National Assembly be dissolved or should the calendar agreed on by all Algerians be respected?

Positions on this question are diverse. Constitutionally, this falls in the prerogatives of the president of the republic.

First, the party which won the local elections, the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) wants to dissolve the assembly and take advantage of its success in these elections. It wants to move rapidly from the Islamic commune to the Islamic state.

Two other political parties, the Socialist Forces Front (FFS) led by Hocine Ait Ahmed and the Movement for Democracy in Algeria (MDA) led by former Algerian president, Ahmed Ben Bella, also asked for the dissolution of the assembly.

There are also those who propose a middle solution as is the case of the Rally for Culture and Democracy (RCD) whose leader, Said Saadi proposed instead the formation of a government of transition and the postponement of the legislative elections.

But people seem to forget one important question. What will become of the present members of the People's National Assembly and what will become of the members of the present government of Mouloud Hamrouche? These members are in fact the ones who voted a number of laws and legislations which enabled the resumption of the credibility of Algeria at the international level, mainly in the financial field. Moreover, the president of the republic remains, according to Article 67 of the Constitution, the guarantor of the democratic process, the guarantor of the Constitution and the guarantor of the economic and political reforms of which he is the initiator and which have been adopted by the majority of Algerians. It is in this context that the head of state asked the government to continue the deepening of the process of democratization.

### Polisario Front Reopens Information Center

AB1306193990 Dakar PANA in English 1605 GMT  
13 Jun 90

[Text] Dakar, 13 June (PANA)—The Information Centre of the Polisario Front of Western Sahara in Algiers resumed its activities Monday [11 June], a statement from the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) has said. The statement received by PANA on Tuesday [12 June] said the centre's re-opening ceremony was officiated by Mr. Ibrahim Hakim, the SADR ambassador to Algeria and was attended by several Algerian personalities and African and European diplomats based in Algiers.

Hakim said the aim of the Information Centre was to bring the Algerian and Sahrawi people closer and to serve as "a window of the past and present Sahrawi culture". He added that the centre was also the expression of the will of the people who have rejected humiliation and who are determined to sacrifice their lives in order to preserve their rights.

The centre's re-opening in the presence of ambassadors from countries friendly to the Polisario Front was "a happy moment for the Sahrawi people to thank, through culture, all those who support our just cause".

## Egypt

### Paper Views U.S. Suspension of PLO Dialogue

NC2106062390 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0610 GMT  
21 Jun 90

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jun (MENA)—The newspaper AL-AHRAM has denounced the pro-Israeli policy of the United States and its disregard for Arab rights.

AL-AHRAM says that the Arab citizen feels that the United States always settles any crisis between it and Israel quickly, but exploits any differences between it and the PLO to exacerbate these differences. AL-AHRAM notes that the Arab citizen does not know why Washington does not adopt a firm stand toward the Israeli attacks on Palestinians and why it merely denounces these attacks when it could do more.

AL-AHRAM says that even when the United States denounces Israel for a certain stand, it then forgives it as if to compensate it for any disturbance that may have been caused.

AL-AHRAM refers to the Palestinian landing on the Tel Aviv coast and to Washington's insistence that the PLO condemn the incident and expel those responsible from its ranks. The newspaper points out that although the PLO has condemned any military operation against Israeli civilians, Washington has suspended the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue while it has continued to appease Israel.

### **Paper Expects Shamir To Renege on Peace**

JN2006172790 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic  
19 Jun 90 p 6

[Editorial: "A Setback"]

[Text] The new hardline rightist Israeli Government is expected to renege on old positions and to push peace efforts that took years to advance—inch by inch—back to square one.

Apparently, Shamir wants the parties to the conflict and all other concerned parties on the international scene to engage in the game with him "once again," [quotation marks as published] brushing aside the progress made thus far, and contending that these accomplishments were attained by "a previous government."

Right now, Shamir believes he can absolve himself of all the steps that have been taken so far because he is now in a position of strength. He wants to put his fingerprints on everything big and small to make others believe an illusion which he himself began to believe—an illusion that he, along with his new team, constitute "a special leadership" charged with leading the Jewish nation from its homeland, Israel, to broader horizons.

One of the manifestations of clinging to "an illusion of might" is Shamir's total disavowal of an understanding reached by Israel and the United States in February allowing residents of the occupied territories to take part in proposed elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Differences continued for a long time on the right of all Arabs of the occupied territories to take part in these elections. These differences led the Labor Party to withdraw from the coalition government with the Likud, thus causing its downfall. These differences became aggravated when the Labor Party unequivocally endorsed the participation of deportees and residents of East Jerusalem in elections. Furthermore, the understanding with the United States also stated that the residents of the occupied territories would have representatives in imminent tripartite talks in Cairo.

Shamir backed down from all of this and affirmed that the Arabs of East Jerusalem have no right to elect or run for elections. He tied a special knot for this, contending that the proposed autonomy will not apply to this occupied area, because it is officially annexed to west Jerusalem according to Israeli laws, and that the two parts of Jerusalem now constitute an indivisible whole which is the capital of Israel.

With a mere stroke of the pen, Shamir has obliterated the Arab presence in Arab Jerusalem, just as he eliminated the existence of Arab Jerusalem. With a similar stroke, he also eliminated the Palestinian presence in the Cairo dialogue or any future talks that might be held on autonomy by announcing his rejection of talks with "any Palestinian" who does not accept in advance Israel's vision of autonomy as well as its conditions for autonomy.

Anyone who does not like this may cling to his own ideas. In other words, we do not want anyone to come to the talks. That is what Shamir is saying.

### **Shamir Asks Cairo To Broker Al-Asad Meeting**

JN2006132090 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic  
1200 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Mustafa Bakri dispatch from Cairo]

[Text] Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has asked Egypt to engage in mediation efforts to arrange a meeting between him and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to discuss the future of the peace process in the region without any preconditions from either of the two sides.

Sources at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry have confirmed that Shamir relayed the request to the Egyptian ambassador in Tel Aviv during a recent meeting with the ambassador. At the meeting Shamir expressed willingness to meet al-Asad at any venue that might be agreeable. He indicated that a meeting with the Syrian president would have a far-reaching impact on the future of regional peace and stability.

The Israeli prime minister said he welcomed any steps Cairo might take to ensure the materialization of such a meeting. These steps should not introduce any changes into the basic guidelines of Israeli ideas on efforts to establish peace in the region, Shamir added.

### **'Abd-al-Majid Praises EC Statement on Mideast**

NC2006150190 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic  
1400 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] Dr. 'Isma't 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has stated that Egypt is satisfied with the EC's positive stand declared during the latest EC foreign ministers' meeting in Luxembourg, particularly the EC's support for Arab rights and the importance of respecting human rights in the occupied territories. 'Abd-al-Majid noted the importance of the European role in advancing and activating peace. He said that during his talks in Italy at the end of June, he will focus on the role that the EC can play in support of the peace efforts and the search for a just solution to the Palestinian issue.

Meanwhile, our correspondent has learned that international contacts are under way to overcome the obstacles Israel is placing before the peace efforts and that the parties concerned are stressing the importance of taking action to establish peace in the region.

### **Advisers Reportedly Evaluate Libyan Preparedness**

NC2006071690 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic  
18 Jun 90 p 7

[Text] AL-SHIRA' has learned that 17 Egyptian military advisers arrived in the Libyan Jamahiriyyah early last week to evaluate the Libyan forces' preparedness to

confront any attack. The Libyan Army has also been supplied with modern artillery batteries and older batteries have been inspected.

The Egyptian military leadership has assured the Libyan leaders that Egypt will not permit any violation of Libyan airspace via Egyptian territory. It also reiterated the Egyptian Government's and people's support for fraternal Libya.

Officials at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry's Middle East department had earlier held talks with U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Frank Wisner about the recent threats against Libya in the wake of the fedayeen operation carried out by the Palestine Liberation Front. During the talks, the Egyptian side stressed that Egypt will not ignore or deal lightly with any attack against Libya or any other Arab state.

#### **Unsubsidized Sugar Price Raised by 60 Percent**

JN2006200390 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic  
18 Jun 90 p 10

[Text] As of today, it has been decided to raise the price of unsubsidized sugar sold at cooperatives from 100 to 160 piasters per kilo. It has also been decided for the first time to sell sugar at private sector stores and supermarkets, in addition to the abovementioned cooperatives.

The decision allows for sugar imports through coordination with the Food Supply Commodities and Private Sector Authority within the confines of the quota specified in the state general budget, which is 340,000 tonnes of unsubsidized sugar every year.

#### **Sidqi on National Unity, Gradual Reforms**

NC1506182190 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic  
1730 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Text] Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi has affirmed that Egypt needs both elements of the nation, the Muslims and the Copts, in its battle for development and productivity and its quest for prosperity and economic reforms. The prime minister urged Egyptians to confront any acts that could harm national unity.

Speaking during a rally this afternoon in the new al-Qantarah al-Sharqiyah city, Dr. Sidqi pointed out that in our quest for economic reforms we try to achieve a balance between economic reforms and economic development and the need to attain social justice and political freedoms at the same time. This is what makes the economic development rate less than what is required, but out of our respect for the citizens' human dignity, we have chosen the road of gradual reforms.

#### **AL-AHRAM Views U.S. Policy Toward PLO**

NC1306093690 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0625 GMT  
13 Jun 90

[Text] Cairo, 13 Jun (MENA)—AL-AHRAM has expressed its surprise at the "relentlessness" of the United States in

pursuing the PLO, besieging it, imposing conditions on it, and threatening to sever the current dialogue with it unless it agrees to do what will satisfy Washington and put out the fire burning in its heart.

In its editorial today, the paper says the United States is behaving in this way at a time when, despite all its resources and options, it is unable or unwilling of taking a single practical measure to warn Israel that it cannot continue the crimes it has been committing for the past 30 months against a defenseless people, crimes which have sickened the entire world. Washington's pretext is that it has a moral obligation not to impose anything on Israel that smacks of arm twisting.

AL-AHRAM adds that nobody can ask the PLO to bear what cannot be borne. After its pledge to renounce terrorism, the PLO cannot be held responsible for any action over which it has no control, be it a military operation carried out by some of its factions, an individual adventure, or an adventure carried out by outside, dissident, or suspicious organizations or by agents of other agencies. The paper points out that to hold the PLO responsible for any action against Israel is similar to former Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin's verdict that the PLO would be held responsible for any attack against the person or property of any Jew anywhere in the world and would receive double punishment in return.

The paper adds that the United States does not match its strange attitude toward the PLO with a similar firm stand against Israel, despite the enormous difference in the practice of the two sides. This attitude proves to the ordinary Arab in the street that behind glittering false appearances, the core of U.S. policy is at least 90 percent biased in favor of Israel despite all its barbaric conduct. In the meantime, it takes advantage of any human reaction to the Israeli massacres to sever the current lines of communication with the PLO, as if it regretted having started the dialogue in the first place.

AL-AHRAM concludes by stating that if Washington wants the PLO to dismiss Abu al-'Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas] and his group from its ranks for their responsibility for an individual incident, why does it not muster its strength and ask the United Nations to expel Israel because of its responsibility for the continued collective massacres in the occupied Arab territories.

#### **Paper Criticizes Shamir, Cheney Statements**

NC1306084490 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0620 GMT  
13 Jun 90

[Text] Cairo, 13 Jun (MENA)—AL-JUMHURIYAH has denounced the anti-peace policy Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir revealed when he told the Israeli Knesset that he would crush the valiant intifadah and continue building settlements.

In its editorial today, the paper also expresses astonishment at statements by U.S. Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney

in which he stressed the U.S. commitment to maintaining Israel's military superiority. The paper adds that this commitment means that support for the aggressor in his blatant challenge to international law and human rights takes precedence over support for the rights and future of those who are the victims of this aggression.

The paper also expresses astonishment at Yitzhaq Shamir's scandalous so-called protests over the Arab summit's final communique's condemnation of the war-mongers in Israel and their efforts to expand constantly at the expense of Arab territories.

Concluding its editorial, AL-JUMHURIYAH calls on the Arab countries to take joint action against the real danger to their interests and existence, which is represented by Shamir's extremist government.

#### **Commentary Condemns Israeli 'War' Government**

NC1306154590 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic  
1140 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Ibrahim Wahbi commentary: "Whither the Rightist Israeli Government?"]

[Text] The new Israeli Government formed by Yitzhaq Shamir can be described as one of war, as it includes the militants, extremists, adventurers, and lovers of violence. His government won the slightest majority in the Israeli Knesset; a majority of only two votes. The war government formed by Shamir blatantly defies the peace appeals extended by the world to the Likud Party and is a response to the appeals by the EC and the U.S.-Soviet summit. Shamir's response is this clear defiance of the entire international community. The new Israeli Government means the continuation of violence, rejection of peace, refrainment from negotiations, and insistence on continued occupation of land. Thus, what political observers fear most is the return of the climate of tension and instability as a reaction to Shamir's decision on an intransigent policy, the use of violence and terrorism, and, consequently, it may be difficult to exercise self-restraint and control positions so that the tragedies of the 1950's do not return.

A Labor Party leader, Yitzhaq Rabin, has predicted such tragedies. He warned that he expects that the new Israeli Government will bring regrettable events to Israel similar to what happened to the previous rightist Israeli Government in 1981, when it halted the peace talks with Egypt, tripled inflation, and launched the Lebanese war that was a catastrophe to Israel.

Shamir's logic regarding peace is not compatible with reality and facts: He believes that the PLO is the greatest obstacle to peace although this organization, which represents the Palestinian people, does not occupy land, as Israel occupies their land; it does not reject negotiations, as Israel does; and it wants only the restoration of usurped land in return for peace. In addition, the PLO does not conduct acts of terror, killing, massacre, and displacement against defenseless civilians that the Israeli authorities are conducting. The

PLO has not ignored any UN resolution whereas Israel has not implemented one single UN resolution. The PLO receives support from the international community—the United Nations, the EC, and the U.S.-Soviet summit—whereas the new Israeli Government is only supported by half the Knesset members.

How, then, can the PLO be the greatest obstacle to peace, as Shamir maintains, when the all countries of the world support the PLO's stand? As a matter of fact, the extremism demonstrated by the new Israeli Government may not harm the Palestinians as much as the Israelis themselves at a time fraught with dangers when the world realizes the need to return to detente, as both the Eastern and Western blocs have done. Even South Africa has found that it was useless to ignore legitimacy. De Klerk is currently roaming the countries of the world in a bid to persuade them that he has turned away from the policy of racial discrimination and that, as a prelude, he has released African leader Nelson Mandela, who was jailed and tortured and who, despite this, defeated his jailers and torturers.

Israel's policy still entertains hopes of expansion in the future and is seeking to achieve the dream of great Israel. Labor Party leader Shim'on Peres described this policy by saying that they are not harboring any intention of peace and will isolate Israel from the entire world. Despite this, violence will eventually give way to peace after the radicals have discovered that their extremism is to no avail as South Africa has found out and Menachem Begin, leader of the Israeli hawks, previously discovered when he signed the peace treaty and returned Sinai and every inch of Egyptian territory. One day the Likud will be forced to accept the path of peace.

#### **Paper on U.S. Threat To Stop PLO Dialogue**

NC1306205890 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2007 GMT  
13 Jun 90

[Text] Cairo, 13 Jun (MENA)—The Egyptian daily AL-AHRAM criticizes the U.S. Administration for threatening to stop the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue if the PLO does not frankly condemn the landing operation which a Palestinian group carried out on the shores of Tel Aviv last month.

In a commentary in tomorrow's edition, AL-AHRAM says that such U.S. threats raise several issues including:

1. The United States raises the issue of stopping the dialogue with the PLO as if this dialogue were the result of the Palestinian concessions made since 1988.
2. Anyone who has been following the dialogue between the two sides can easily observe that it has not produced any positive results and that the initiative of U.S. Secretary of State James Baker has not even received Israel's approval in principle.
3. The U.S. demand that the PLO condemn the Palestinian landing operation raises the issue of equal treatment. The United States should demand that Israel condemn all the acts of terrorism it practices against the sons of the Palestinian people in the occupied territory.

4. The PLO should not be required to condemn any actions harming its enemy as long as it has officially announced that it is not responsible for such actions. Otherwise, Israel should be committed to denounce the acts of violence, which it itself did not commit, against the PLO members in many world nations.

In conclusion, AL-AHRAM says that the U.S. threat to stop the dialogue is futile from the standpoint of the value of this dialogue, justness of the demand, and future of the dialogue, particularly after the formation of the government of war and settlement in Israel under the premiership of Yitzhaq Shamir.

### Morocco

#### Maghreb Agencies Plan Unified News Agency

LD1906143190 Rabat MAP in English 1249 GMT  
19 Jun 90

[Excerpt] Algiers, Jun 19 (MAP) Director generals of Maghreban news agencies, including 'Maghreb Arabe Presse (MPA) are holding here this June 19 and 20 their second meeting. The first was held in Rabat in October 1989. The Moroccan delegation, led by MAP Director General Abdeljalil Fenjiro, arrived here Monday to partake in this conference that will assess inter-Maghreban cooperation during the past eight months and evaluate the service 'POOL/UMA' launched on November 1st 1989, in the morrow of the Rabat conference.

The ten items on the agenda of the Algiers conference include the project for the setting up a Maghreban News Agency, coordination of activities of the Maghreban news agencies' respective international bureaux abroad, exchange of experience regarding the computerization of the agencies and the project for the creation of a press data bank.

The director generals will also discuss the creation of a prize of agency journalism.

MAP director general, in his quality as acting chairman of the 'POOL/UMA', will present a report to the opening session on the action accomplished since last October. [passage omitted]

#### Spanish-Moroccan Air Maneuvers Scheduled

LD2006144190 Rabat MAP in English 1336 GMT  
20 Jun 90

[Text] Rabat, Jun 20, (MAP)—The Spanish-Moroccan air manoeuvres named 'Atlas 90,' in which the two countries air forces will participate, will be held this June 25 to 28.

The manoeuvres will take place in a zone covering southern Spain, the western Mediterranean region and northern Morocco.

### Western Sahara

#### Parliament President Criticizes Morocco

AU1306102190 Vienna WIENER ZEITUNG  
in German 13 Jun 90 p 3

[Unattributed report: "President of Saharan Parliament Visits Vienna"]

[Text] Morocco is still preventing the peaceful solution of the West Saharan conflict, which has lasted for 15 years, Ahmad Lamin, president of the Saharan Parliament, complained at a news conference in Vienna on Tuesday [12 June]. Lamin called on the Federal Government to internationally advocate peace in Western Sahara.

Morocco is occupying the former Spanish colony of Western Sahara against the resistance of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Saquia El Hamra and Rio de Oro [Polisario].

Although Morocco formally accepted the UN peace proposals, hundreds of Polisario members are still being carried off, large quantities of weapons are being bought, and the fortifications in the occupied territories are reinforced, he said.

Morocco also blocks a referendum supported by the United Nations in which 250,000 people living in Western Sahara can choose between Morocco or independence, he said.

The proposal to put the disputed area under United Nations' sovereign administration until the parties to the conflict come to an agreement has also not been taken up by Morocco, he said.

"In this way, the suspicion that Morocco is not at all interested in a peaceful solution is corroborated," the president of parliament stressed.

As chairwoman of the Austrian Parliamentarians Committee for Western Sahara, Waltraud Horvath, deputy of the Socialist Party of Austria [SPOe] and member of the Foreign Policy Committee, announced a parliamentary initiative. During the debate on the foreign policy report at the end of June, the SPOe, perhaps with the support of the Austrian People's Party, will present a motion for a resolution that calls on the Federal Government and the Foreign Ministry to diplomatically support the Arab Republic of Sahara.

### Kuwait

#### Shaykh Sabah Receives Pickering, Criticizes U.S.

LD2006134690 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1228 GMT  
20 Jun 90

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 20 June (KUNA)—The Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir today received the permanent U.S. representative at the United Nations Thomas Pickering. [passage omitted]

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad told journalists that discussion during the meeting dealt with many international issues and issues of mutual interest, at the forefront of which was the Middle East question. Reference was made to the use of the veto by the United States at the Security Council against the Arab group's draft resolutions which condemn the Israeli practices, and the cutting-off of U.S. aid to the UNRWA [United Nations Relief and Works Agency] amounting to \$6 million. Shaykh Sabah criticized this American measure. He added that discussion dealt also with the question of the immigration of Soviet Jews to occupied Palestine and the campaign of U.S. pressures on the Soviet Union to facilitate and expand this immigration, and they talked about many other issues. Shaykh Sabah said that during this meeting he felt a clear-cut understanding by Mr. Pickering, but said that this was a personal attitude and did not reflect the policy of the U.S. Administration. [passage omitted]

For his part, the American official stressed that he had held negotiations with the deputy prime minister and foreign minister which he described as being successful and significant, noting that they dealt with various issues of importance to both countries, especially the question of peace in the Middle East. He added that they had exchanged views on all international issues, and pointed out that he will convey Kuwait's views on these issues to his government.

Mr. Pickering said that he will give more details and reply to all questions during the press conference he will hold this evening at his country's embassy. [passage omitted]

#### New Cabinet Members Announced, Listed

LD2006194790 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic  
1700 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] After taking cognizance of the Amiri decree issued on 3 July 1986 and the Amiri decree issued on 22 April 1990 ordering the formation of the National Assembly; and of Article 56, paragraphs 1 and 2, and Article 125 of the Constitution; and of our decree issued 13 June 1990 appointing the heir apparent Sa'd al-'Abdalah al-Salim al-Sabah prime minister; and on the basis of the suggestions of the prime minister; we have decreed the following:

Article one: The following appointments are made:  
Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah; deputy prime minister and foreign minister

(Badr Jasim al-Y'aqub); minister of state for the affairs of the National Assembly.

(Jabir al-'Abdallah al-Jabir); minister of social affairs and labor.

(Jabir Mubarak al-Hamad); minister of information.

(Jasim Muhammad al-Musa); minister of public works.

(Habib Jawhar Hayat); minister of communications.

Hamud 'Abdallah al-Ruqba; minister of electricity and water.

(Rashid Salim al-'Amiri); minister of oil.

(Salim al-Sabah al-Salim); minister of interior.

(Sulayman 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Mutawwa'a); minister of planning.

Dhari 'Abdallah 'Uthman; minister of justice and legal affairs.

'Abd-al-Rahman 'Abdallah al-'Awadi; minister of state for cabinet affairs.

('Abdallah Yusuf al-Ghunaym); minister of education.

(Abd al-Wahab Sulayman al-Fawzan); minister of public health.

(Ali al-Khalifah al-'Adhbi); minister of finance.

Ali 'Abdallah Shamlan; minister of higher education.

(Fahd 'Abdallah al-Hassawi); minister of state for municipal affairs.

(Muhammad Nasir al-Hamdani); minister of awqaf and Islamic affairs.

(Nasir 'Abdallah al-Rudan); minister of commerce and industry.

(Nasir Muhammad al-Ahmad); minister of state for foreign affairs.

(Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir); minister of defense.

(Yahya Fahd al-Sumayt); minister of state for housing.

Article Two: the prime minister shall implement this decree, and it becomes effective from the date of its issue and shall be published in the official gazette.

[Signed] Amir of Kuwait, Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah

Prime Minister Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah

[dated] 20 June 1990, Al-Bayan Palace

### United Arab Emirates

#### Gulf Papers Criticize U.S. Dialogue Suspension

JN2106091590 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0730 GMT  
21 Jun 90

[Excerpt] Manama, 21 Jun (WAKH)—[passage omitted]  
Three newspapers published in the United Arab Emirates today criticized editorially the U.S. Administration's submission to the Zionist pressure and its suspension of dialogue with the PLO.

AL-ITTIHAD said that this decision was not at all surprising and that those who know the strength of Zionist influence in the U.S. arena never doubted that the White House would eventually yield so as to enter the Israeli government's good books.

The newspaper expressed its regret that Washington, which consistently used the veto to save Israel from the Security Council's condemnations of its terrorism toward the Palestinian people under the pretext of the Security Council resolutions' imbalance, is the same Washington which now violates the bases of the balance for which it calls.

AL-BAYAN newspaper on its part wondered how Washington could play the role of mediator in the peace process—a role which requires a certain neutrality—at a time when it does not exert any effective efforts to curb the aggressive Israeli trends which are currently being propagated in the Zionist entity.

It affirmed that the lesson which the Arabs must now comprehend is that relations with the other forces in the world are governed by interests and the ability to use force and influence to compel others to respect Arab interests.

Concluding its editorial, the paper called for implementing the latest Arab summit resolution on defining the Arab stand toward other countries in accordance with its stands concerning Arab issues to make it possible to change many of the current situations and circumstances.

AL-WIHDAH newspaper wondered how help could be given to the parties to the conflict to push the peace process forward when dialogue is severed with a major party. How do we evaluate this distorted equation?

The newspaper affirmed that the U.S. decision is a backward push for the peace process, especially because the Israeli enemy showed satisfaction. This is the objective, it seems, after the reconciliation message sent by Bush to Shamir.

The newspaper called for crystallizing the atmosphere and trends of the Baghdad summit and informing the U.S. Administration that suspending dialogue with the PLO means suspending dialogue with the entire Arab world.

Two Bahraini newspapers discussed in their editorials today the decision announced by U.S. President George Bush to stop U.S. dialogue with the PLO.

The newspaper AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ said that the United States after halting dialogue with the PLO, has proved to the world once again how biased and unjust it is and that it follows an irresponsible policy, and continues to implement that policy from the single-minded perspective which sees the Middle East through Israeli eyes only.

The newspaper pointed out that the United States did not intend, from the very beginning, to give a push in a positive direction. All it intended was to use the dialogue merely as a political tool to promote Israeli pressures on the PLO and push it toward efforts to stop the intifadah. When it realized that stopping the intifadah is impossible, its dialogue with the PLO lost its justification; it preferred, therefore, to withdraw from it so as to practice various other forms of pressure.

For its part, AL-AYYAM newspaper said that the U.S. declaration revealed its true stand, which is steeped in bias toward the Zionist entity, despite the talk Washington regurgitates about the peace process it patronizes in the Middle East.

It adds: If the U.S. Administration uses the pretext of terrorism to break off dialogue with the PLO, any honest observer realizes very well that the PLO has offered all it can concerning this issue, starting with Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat's decision to renounce violence a few years ago, and even including the latest statement issued by the PLO a few days ago in which it condemned any military operation targeting civilians.

It said that the U.S. Administration wants something else—complete unconditional and limitless Palestinian submission to all the indiscriminate conditions set by the hostile Zionist government, which it seeks to impose on the Palestinian side through Washington.

In conclusion AL-AYYAM affirmed that the U.S. decision has dealt a fatal blow to the peace settlement. It also dealt U.S. credibility a fatal blow.

Qatari newspaper editorials also concentrated on analyzing the dimensions of the U.S. decision to suspend dialogue with the PLO.

The newspaper AL-RAYAH clarified that Washington's decision to suspend dialogue aborts the last serious and responsible attempts at recognizing the role of the PLO in any just settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict, declares the failure of peace efforts, and affirms once again U.S. blind bias toward Israel.

The newspaper affirmed that through this stand, the United States will push the PLO toward further violence. It also affirms its collusion with the Israeli aggressive role at a time when Israeli oppression of our Palestinian people is mounting. [passage omitted]

**U.S. Dialogue Suspension Termed 'Hostile Policy'**

JN2006204190 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2018 GMT  
20 Jun 90

[Text] New York, 20 Jun (INA)—U.S. President George Bush officially announced a short time ago the suspension of the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue. This emerged in a written statement President Bush read at a news conference in Huntsville, in the U.S. state of Alabama.

Bush said he decided to suspend the dialogue with the PLO at the recommendation of his Secretary of State James Baker.

This U.S. decision comes as an escalation of the hostile policy toward the PLO in a bid to force it to adopt a position inconsistent with the Palestine National Council resolutions.

**Paper Claims Five 'Doomsday Guns' Assembled**

NC2106085590 Istanbul HURRIYET in Turkish  
19 Jun 90 p 14

[Excerpts] Ankara (HURRIYET)—An investigation launched after several pieces of a gun barrel bound for Iraq were seized in Britain, Greece, and Turkey has revealed that Iraq has assembled five "doomsday guns" from the pieces it had already managed to bring into the country. No information has been available on where the missiles that can be fired from these guns will be manufactured. [passage omitted]

According to information received thus far, Iraq has two types of "doomsday gun." The first type has a caliber of 58 cm, is 160 meters long, and has a range of 600 km. The second type has a caliber of 35 cm, is 60 meters long, and has a range of 200 km. Officials have said that both types can fire nuclear or chemical missiles. They also noted that the speed of the missiles can be increased by propellers mounted on the rear end of the projectiles. [passage omitted]

According to Turkish Foreign Ministry officials, Iraq has been able to assemble five "doomsday guns" from the pieces it had already brought into the country. No information has been available on the nuclear and chemical missiles that can be used in these guns, which have been positioned in the highlands and mountainous areas of Iraq. [passage omitted]

**Al-Mashshat Denies Misuse of Banking Facilities**

PM2106085090 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 26  
Jun 90 p 24

[Unattributed interview with Iraqi Ambassador to the United States Muhammad Sadiq al-Mashshat in Washington; date not given]

[Text] [Interviewer] What is this story about the Canadian missile scientist who, according to the U.S. media, helped Iraq to manufacture missiles?

[Al-Mashshat] It is no secret that Iraq is working to acquire modern technology. In this context it is cooperating and ready to cooperate with any country that has such technology and with any specialized scientist. We want to develop our industrialization and defense capabilities. And we are entitled to build our own defenses. But Iraq's enemies portray these efforts in a way that serves their own ends.

[Interviewer] What is the truth regarding the reports that have been published about attempts to smuggle materials to manufacture nuclear bombs?

[Al-Mashshat] That story is entirely fabricated. Iraq is a signatory of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and all its installations are subject to international inspection. An International Atomic Energy Authority committee visited Iraq 45 days ago. It inspects our installations every six months. Those who circulate such allegations against Iraq seem to forget that Israel has not signed the treaty, rejects international inspections, and possesses some 150-200 nuclear heads. And above all, it occupies Arab territories.

[Interviewer] What about the reports that the Italian Banca Nazionale di Lavoro's branch in Atlanta, United States, offered loans to Iraq to purchase weapons?

[Al-Mashshat] Those reports are exaggerated. Iraq has settled the entire matter with the main bank.

[Interviewer] THE WASHINGTON POST recently said that the U.S. Agriculture Department is investigating Iraq's misuse of the banking facilities provided to it for the purchase of U.S. agricultural products.

[Al-Mashshat] Iraq has not tampered with anything. We use the banking guarantees provided by the U.S. Agriculture Department to purchase U.S. agricultural products. And many other states do the same. It is unreasonable for such banking facilities to be used to purchase weapons. A report has been published containing statements by the director general of crop sales to foreign states at the U.S. Agriculture Department, according to whom Iraq did not exploit agricultural contracts for anything other than agricultural purposes. And the Agriculture Department itself has confirmed it.

[Interviewer] But the assistant agriculture secretary postponed the consideration of an Iraqi order to purchase agricultural products worth \$500 million.

[Al-Mashshat] It was unjust of him to do so, and I do know not what his motives are. An Agriculture Department delegation visited Iraq recently and returned convinced that everything was sound. That decision harms U.S. interests more than Iraq's, because Iraq can purchase from other states—and at lower prices.

[Interviewer] How long will the consideration of the Iraqi order be frozen?

[Al-Mashshat] I do not know. But we cannot wait forever. We need these agricultural products, and we shall turn to other sources.

### Officials Comment on Expected Bush Announcement

TA2006180990 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew  
1730 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Excerpts] U.S. President George Bush's expected announcement on suspending the dialogue with the PLO will probably be made at a news conference he will hold in Alabama in about 90 minutes. No official Israeli reaction has yet been made. [passage omitted]

A first reaction from the territories: Jamil al-Tarifi [deputy mayor of al-Birah], one of the Palestinian leaders, has said that the Palestinian people regret the suspension of the U.S.-PLO dialogue. According to him, the United States is adopting the policy of Shamir's government. Without talking to the PLO, al-Tarifi said, there is no chance of obtaining peace in our region.

Our correspondent Udi Segal reports that the Peace Now movement has announced that suspending the dialogue will serve the cause of the extremists, and might increase tension in the region and jeopardize the continuation of the political process.

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1605 GMT on 20 June carries an interview with Agriculture Minister Refa'el Eytan by Yitzhaq Golan. Asked for his comment on the expected U.S. announcement on stopping its dialogue with the PLO, Eytan says: "It is possibly the beginning of the sobering up of the United States, the gaining of a deeper understanding of the Arab world and everything that takes place in it. Their desire to talk to the PLO as a factor in the Middle East, or the wrong concept that it is one, has backfired, and this is possibly the beginning of a new road. I believe we must issue firm explanations to make them understand that the way of the Arab world is totally different from Western concepts or logic."]

### Rabin Calls for Palestinian Talks

TA2006192190 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew  
1800 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Interview with Knesset Member Yitzhaq Rabin by Ya'aqov Ahime'ir—live]

[Text] [Ahime'ir] We are dealing in the realm of speculations: If President Bush announces the suspension of the talks with the PLO, how will such a step affect the political process in our region?

[Rabin] There are two aspects to the PLO question: that of the United States, and that of Israel—which is the real problem. Fifteen years ago, as the Israeli prime minister, I signed a memorandum of understanding with the U.S. Government that the latter would not conduct negotiations with the PLO. This commitment was kept until December 1988, when Secretary Shultz decided to resume [as heard] the dialogue with the PLO. In my opinion, the dialogue—which runs counter to Israel's position—has not contributed anything. It was not without reason that in August 1989 the United States

asked Egypt to provide Arab backing to the peace process laid out in the Israeli peace initiative.

The problem is primarily ours. We have to decide whether we are prepared to pursue the peace process as laid out in the peace initiative—with the participation of Egypt, Israel, and the United States—with the addressee being the Palestinians in the territories and not the PLO. This initiative was terminated by the Likud government, or rather by the Likud within the framework of the national unity government. My feeling is that the new right-wing government is today taking advantage of any incident in order to hold up the peace process. The termination of the peace process conducted by the three parties that attained the Camp David accords and the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel, and revived the process in the wake of the peace initiative of May 1989, will lead to a freeze and a closing of ranks in the Arab world, and will make the international political arena demand an international peace conference under the auspices of the United Nations and the five permanent members of the Security Council. The problem is primarily ours; the PLO is irrelevant. The question is whether we, together with the United States and Egypt, pursue the initiative vis-a-vis the Palestinians in the territories. That is possible, but has been held up by the Likud. The question is whether this situation will remain unchanged.

[Ahime'ir] Mr. Rabin, what should the government do if President Bush makes such an announcement?

[Rabin] In my opinion, the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue in Tunis—which ran counter to our position and was conducted against our will—has not contributed anything. Our partners to a dialogue are the Palestinians in the territories, with the next stage being a meeting between the Israeli and Egyptian [as heard] delegations in Cairo in order to decide on modalities for elections in the territories. That is if we really want to pursue the peace process that was set out in the Camp David accords and was revived by the national unity government, and prevent a freeze which will lead to a far worse political situation for Israel.

### U.S. Suspends PLO Dialogue; Officials Respond

#### Shamir, Arens React

TA2006201590 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew  
2000 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stated this evening that the very suspension of the dialogue between the United States and the PLO should be regarded as an important and positive step which we have awaited for a long time.

Our political correspondent Arye Golan reports that in an initial reaction to the U.S. President's decision, the prime minister added that the United States has once again recognized that the PLO is an organization engaging in terror which, in Israel's opinion, constitutes an obstacle to peace in the region.

In the wake of President Bush's decision, Mr. Shamir said, we hope it will be easier for us to attain understanding and a joint position with the United States with regard to the continuation of the peace process.

Defense Minister Moshe Arens says this is an important decision. Minister Arens told our political correspondent Arye Golan that this decision will undoubtedly contribute to promoting peace in the Middle East.

#### Sinyurah Says War Encouraged

TA2106044690 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English  
0400 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Local Palestinian leaders have reacted angrily to the U.S. decision. Editor of the East Jerusalem daily AL-FAJR, Hanna Sinyurah, told reporter Mark Weiss that the latest move could lead to war in the Middle East, and an escalation of the intifadah.

[Begin recording] [Sinyurah] The decision of President Bush to suspend the dialogue with the PLO is a grave blow to the relations between the Palestinian people and the United States. I am certain that this is also bad to the vital interests of the United States, not only with the Palestinian people, but in the whole region, in the Arab world. It is also an indication that in this region there is going to be a vacuum in the political process, and that this is an encouragement to go to war. It is an indication that the United States is no longer going to be a neutral mediator in this area, especially coming after the veto of the United States, and denotes to us that the United States is not interested even in the human aspects, the quality of life of Palestinians under occupation.

[Weiss] How do you expect the Palestinians to react locally? Do you expect an escalation in the intifadah?

[Sinyurah] Certainly today with the end of the political process, the possibility of dialogue in the region...[changes thought] It is not only a blow to the dialogue between the United States and the PLO, it is also a blow to the possibility of reviving the dialogue with Israel. So here that means that the region will see an escalation toward probably violence. [end recording]

#### Shamir on Decision's Effects

TA2106053190 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew  
0405 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Telephone interview with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir by Hayim Zissowitz—live]

[Text] [Zissowitz] Good morning, sir.

[Shamir] Good morning.

[Zissowitz] The issue, as presented by our political correspondent, is what price Israel will now be asked to pay for the suspension of the dialogue between the United States and the PLO.

[Shamir] It is not a question of prices and bargaining. From the start, when the United States decided to hold a dialogue with the PLO, we viewed it as a dangerous phenomenon which would harm all efforts to reach understanding with the Arabs of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. Today, after the United States also reached that conclusion, we can only welcome it. I would like to recall that Israel's peace initiative of last year said clearly that the PLO cannot and should not be a partner to the Israeli peace efforts. We made that even clearer in the exchanges of cables between Foreign Minister Moshe Arens and the U.S. Administration. We said forthrightly: If the PLO is in, Israel is out.

[Zissowitz] Mr. Shamir, you say you welcome the decision, and you are certainly satisfied with it, although they are only being temporarily suspended and not broken off completely.

[Shamir] That is correct—it arouses concern that the U.S. Administration has perhaps not yet reached the outright conclusion that this involves a terrorist organization which did not stop for one moment dealing in terror. It is currently involved in terror and will be involved in it tomorrow as well, but we believe nevertheless that reality is stronger than all sorts of tactical maneuvers. The PLO can afford to deal in lies and false tactics, the U.S. Administration cannot do that, it needs credibility, mainly among its own citizens. The entire world is watching the United States and wants it to be the main factor fighting terror. I therefore do not believe that the suspension will be temporary, or rather I hope it will not be temporary. I hope it forms a new chapter in the U.S. attitude toward the Middle East.

[Zissowitz] Mr. Shamir, might it also be the beginning of a new chapter in Israeli-U.S. relations? We have recently been hearing about problems. Could the decision, for example, become an impetus for the improvement of personal relations between you and President Bush? Do you plan to call him and praise him for the decision?

[Shamir] I hope that this decision will make it easier for Israel to reach cooperation with the United States in the efforts to achieve peace in our region, because we always viewed the PLO as the main obstacle to peace.

[Zissowitz] According to what has been published, Yasir Arafat had prior knowledge of the [30 May] attack. Did Israel transmit such information to the United States in order to encourage it to cease the dialogue with the PLO?

[Shamir] Israel transmitted everything it knows to the U.S. Administration. We did not doubt for a single moment that the PLO is involved in terrorist activities, not only in the specific action which failed, but also in previous actions, and that they continue to plan and organize terrorist operations.

[Zissowitz] Mr. Prime Minister, is it possible that the Americans will now ask for our agreement to include a

deportee or East Jerusalem Arab in the Palestinian delegation? They might say: We made a gesture, we cut off ties with the PLO, now Israel should respond in a similar way.

[Shamir] I cannot forecast all U.S. moves. I know that it will make it easier for us. In our response to President Bush's latest letter, we will take into account that the United States reached a conclusion largely identical to our view that the PLO is a terrorist organization and must not be a partner in any peace process.

[Zissowitz] Sir, is there any move you plan to take now to advance the peace process in view of the latest developments?

[Shamir] In the coming days, we will discuss the moves we can take. I believe that a few days must pass before we see the move's repercussions on all elements in the region, but first of all it will have an effect on the contacts between us and the United States.

[Zissowitz] In reference to the repercussions, there is a claim by the left that, if we do not talk with the PLO, we will end up talking to Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] and even worse extremists. On the other hand, former Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, now a Knesset member, warns that in view of the U.S. decision, a stalemate might again bring to the fore the international conference idea.

[Shamir] There is no end to the dangers arising from all sides. We do not believe that we will ever be able to conduct any negotiations with extremists such as Hamas, just as we did not believe that we could conduct negotiations with the PLO, which is no less extremist than others. In our peace efforts, we are counting on the logic of the many Arabs living in our country who understand that a settlement can be reached with Israel, not through violence, but through negotiations and talks.

[Zissowitz] Thank you, Mr. Prime Minister.

[Shamir] Thank you.

#### **Frayj Says 'Extremists' Aided**

*TA2106055190 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew  
0405 GMT 21 Jun 90*

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The newspaper, AL-NAHAR is calling on the Palestinians to react in a cool and clear-headed manner [to the U.S. decision to suspend the dialogue with the PLO.] So is Ilyas Frayj, the mayor of Bethlehem, who is not calling for a boycott of the United States. Nevertheless, Frayj expressed the belief that the American decision may have a destructive effect on the situation in the region.

[Begin Frayj recording] Well, the American decision will have an adverse effect upon the situation here. It will play into the hands of the extremists on both sides. [end recording]

#### **Peres Hails Decision**

*TA2106060190 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew  
0405 GMT 21 Jun 90*

[Comment by Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres in New York on U.S. decision to suspend talks with the PLO—recorded]

[Text] I believe this is a timely decision, a correct decision. No compromise can be made with terror; terror cannot be accepted. There is nothing that threatens and hinders peace more than violence and terror acts. I am glad the U.S. Administration has remained firm in its opinion and consistent in its positions on everything pertaining to the struggle against terror. Nothing stands in the way of gaining a majority in Israel for peace the way terror does. Nothing prevents the Arabs from reaching the right decisions the way terror does. Terror hurts everyone who wants peace. Those who want to murder Israelis are, in fact, trying to murder peace and the chances for peace. It is good the President was unequivocal on this issue.

#### **Netanyahu Interviewed**

*TA2106070590 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew  
0500 GMT 21 Jun 90*

[Telephone interview with Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu by Gilat Levi and Mikha Friedman—live]

[Text] [Friedman] Good morning, Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu.

[Netanyahu] Good morning.

[Friedman] You are obviously aware of the fact that Bush announced only the suspension of the dialogue. If 'Arafat apologizes and says: Sorry, I made a mistake, then there will immediately be a dialogue again between the United States and the PLO, as Bush says.

[Netanyahu] I hope that the move is not a semicolon but a full stop. If I am not mistaken, the conditions the United States imposed for its dialogue with the PLO included not only denunciation but also the expulsion and punishment of any element or leader in the PLO factions involved in terror. I therefore believe that what is involved here does not only involve a denunciation but an additional move against Abu-'Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas].

[Friedman] Nevertheless, Bush says that the dialogue with the PLO proved that it can advance the Israeli-Palestinian peace process. In other words, theoretically, although the PLO showed its real colors and was not prepared to give the United States what it wanted, Washington still supports the continuation of that dialogue.

[Netanyahu] I believe the United States took the right and necessary step. I believe that there cannot be such a

wide gap between the PLO's actions and the reactions to those moves. One by one, the assumptions the United States took as the basis for its dialogue with the PLO were proven false. A period of U.S. soul-searching was called for. I believe it took the right step.

[Levi] The U.S. move, which leaves an opening for a renewal of the U.S.-PLO dialogue, can also boomerang against Israel and be used as a pressure tactic, with the Americans saying: We did what we had to; now we expect developments on the Israeli side. Might Israel now respond affirmatively to Baker?

[Netanyahu] There is no need to pressure us. We ourselves are trying to further the initiative. One of the greatest obstacles—I would say dual obstacles—preventing the promotion of the initiative and peace between Jews and Arabs is the fact that there are those in the Palestinian world, such as the PLO, who still seek the destruction of Israel and engage in terrorist activities to implement that policy, while in the Arab world in general a war front led by 'Arafat and Saddam Husayn is developing. Does it advance peace for there to be no reaction when these elements send terrorist squads to implement mass murder on Tel Aviv beaches? Had the murder succeeded and had hundreds of people been killed on the Tel Aviv beach, would that have promoted peace? The main thing that we must understand is that the Arab world examines the U.S. response and listens to what is being said in Washington—and not only there. I believe that when a reaction of this nature occurs, it has a moderating influence or at least encourages people who want to take a different path and want to consider our initiative and other factors.

[Friedman] You are talking about the initiative, but the United States prefaces that with Baker's famous questions. Yesterday Bush recalled the letter he sent Shamir which, as he put it, very specifically asked questions that relate to seriousness about the peace process. I assume he was referring to the famous Baker questions and that seriousness refers to an affirmative Israeli answer to them. What are we going to tell the United States in the current situation? The PLO is now out of the picture.

[Netanyahu] As you know, the prime minister is now formulating a response to President Bush's letter.

[Friedman] With answers to the questions?

[Netanyahu] I assume he will respond to the questions contained therein and perhaps add his reservations and our plans. The most important thing to understand is that the PLO issue was one of the obstacles to better understanding between Israel and the United States in recent months—over the past 18 months, I would say. We were witness to PLO actions and to statements within the Arab world which were not met with an adequate response from Washington and other places. This situation is now changing, and that is important. I believe it is a basis for better understanding and for positive progress not only in our relations with the United States but in the direction of a real peace process.

[Levi] CBS News claimed that U.S. intelligence discovered that 'Arafat knew about the plans for an attack on Israeli beaches at the time that he committed himself to cease terror. Did Israel also know that 'Arafat was briefed on the attack on Israeli beaches?

[Netanyahu] Our evaluations from the start were that it is difficult to assume that 'Arafat was not aware of an action that involved hundreds of people, various organizations, and a sovereign country such as Libya. It is difficult to believe that something like this would have been hidden from him, to use an understatement. I believe that 'Arafat probably did not hear about Lincoln's saying: You can't fool all of the people all of the time. This is at least true of the Americans and the Israelis.

[Friedman] The other part of Lincoln's saying was: You can fool some of the people some of the time.

[Netanyahu] That is correct, but you see that also came to a halt at some stage. I would not suggest that anybody believe that what is involved is just a single terrorist action. 'Arafat, the PLO, and Fatah carried out dozens of terrorist acts since they supposedly renounced terror. What happened on the Tel Aviv beach is simply the most dramatic example of the breaking of that promise. It is good that it has ended.

#### MK Rabin Interviewed

TA2106075490 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew  
0500 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Telephone interview with former Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by Mikha Friedman and Gilat Levi—live]

[Text] [Friedman] Good morning, Knesset Member Yitzhaq Rabin.

[Rabin] Good morning to you and our listeners.

[Friedman] How can there be negotiations with a Palestinian representation on holding elections in the territories? That is your plan. The PLO is defeated and maimed and has no intention of giving the Palestinians from Nabulus and Gaza its blessing for talks.

[Rabin] I have no doubt that the U.S. decision was timely. The reason for the move is that the Americans presented the PLO with conditions which it did not meet and which led to the suspension of the dialogue. In my view, the Americans had already despaired of the PLO contribution to the political process last summer, when they appealed to Mubarak for Egypt to provide Arab backing for the Palestinians in the territories. According to the government's peace initiative of May 1989, these Palestinians and not the PLO are the address.

[Friedman] Why is Bush then leaving the door open for the PLO to rejoin negotiations?

[Rabin] In my view, this is first and foremost an Israeli problem. The Americans did what they did, and that is good. The issue is not how to please the United States,

but what is in Israel's interest. In my view, it is in Israel's interest to advance its peace initiative. The key to the progression or failure of the initiative is our ability to move ahead in the dialogue between us and the Palestinians in the territories.

[Friedman] I asked you about that. Do you believe they will now shake off the PLO and begin talks with us?

[Rabin] In my view, we face the possibility of an opening to a path leading toward elections in the territories. The Israeli Government provided a positive response to Baker's five points at that time, which would have led to the convening of the two delegations in Cairo. The dispute was over the composition of the Palestinian delegation. I believe that the peace process can now move ahead. The key to progress—and I believe it can still be done—is a meeting between the delegations in Cairo. In that case, if such a meeting takes place, we will know if we can reach elections in the territories. I believe that holding elections will begin the process, will help quell the intifadah, and will create a Palestinian representation elected from and by the inhabitants of the territories, which is the best answer to the PLO and to its exclusion from the negotiations.

[Levi] That is part of your peace initiative, but you are on the opposition benches for the time being. What do you think the Israeli Government will do in the situation created after the U.S. move?

[Rabin] I believe we should ask whether the Israeli Government is committed to the peace initiative and the Inner Cabinet resolution of 6 November 1989, when a majority of nine to three approved Baker's five points, while making certain assumptions. In my view, that was a basis for getting the process moving, and I believe that is the situation now, too. I stress: This is an Israeli issue, an Israeli interest, and not some wish to give the United States a present for acting as it did. Israel has an interest in testing the peace initiative to see whether it makes progress. The next move must be a meeting between the two delegations with Egyptian involvement. Such involvement is of major importance, because I view it as the alternative to PLO backing.

[Friedman] But before then, according to Bush, we have to respond affirmatively to Baker's questions.

[Baker] There is just one Baker question. The five questions constitute a single framework. The Israeli Government—assuming that the present government does not revoke the previous government's resolution—gave an affirmative response in principle to a meeting between the two delegations in Cairo. The question over which the government fell was, among other things, the composition of the Palestinian delegation, and in my view Israel thereby missed an opportunity. With the suspension of U.S.-PLO talks, the process, which is in Israel's interest, can be resumed.

[Levi] Do you believe that the government, in its present composition, will respond positively to Baker on that question?

[Rabin] I would like to give it the benefit of the doubt [last five words in English], but in my view that is very doubtful because that was the reason for the government's downfall. If Baker had been given an affirmative answer on the composition of the Palestinian delegation—which was acceptable at least to the Labor Party and myself—by several Likud ministers, the government would not have fallen and the process would have continued.

[Friedman] Baker said in the past more than once that the United States has interests in other regions of the world and that if things stop moving in the Middle East, it will wash its hands of the matter. Is the United States, headed by Bush and Baker, capable of reacting to an obstinate Israel by taking punitive measures or putting a freeze on certain issues?

[Rabin] I very much hope not. I am not even thinking about the possibility of U.S. pressure on Israel, because Israel must ask itself what is right for it. Israeli policy must be guided first and foremost by Israeli interests. In my view, that interest is to maintain the peace process on the basis of Israeli-Egyptian-American cooperation. That is the formula that brought peace between Israel and Egypt and established the framework for Middle East peace. Under those accords, after the achievement of peace between Israel and Egypt, the Palestinian issue must be dealt with. The unity government and its initiative decided on the Palestinian address: the Palestinians in the territories, not the PLO.

### Shamir Disagrees With Baker

TA2106104290 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew  
1000 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir met with Uruguay's foreign minister and told him that Israel will take action to engage in a dialogue with moderate Palestinians from the territories once they are free of the PLO's terror and intimidation campaigns. Here is an update from Jerusalem by our political correspondent Natan Gutman:

Jerusalem does not accept Secretary Baker's argument that the suspension of the U.S.-PLO dialogue will lead to radicalization in the organization and that Israel will not be able to talk to Palestinians unless they have been sanctioned by the PLO. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said exactly the opposite today in a meeting with Hector Espiel Gros, Uruguay's foreign minister. Shamir expressed his hope that in the wake of the suspension of the dialogue it will be easier—thanks to the decline in the PLO's prestige—to formulate the positions common to Israel and the United States.

Regarding Secretary Baker's remarks, the prime minister said: We will now try to find moderate Palestinian interlocutors from Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza with whom we will be able to start talking. Israel, emphasized

Shamir, wants to pursue its peace initiative. It will only be able to do that if realistic Palestinians launch a dialogue once they no longer fear the PLO.

Thus, Israel does not accept Baker's gloomy forecast and stresses: Contrary to his prediction, the moderate Palestinians will grow stronger, and it is with them that we will conduct negotiations with the approval of the PLO from Tunis.

### Editorial Views Suspension

TA2106102190 Tel Aviv YED'OT AHARONOT  
in Hebrew 21 Jun 90 p 2

[Editorial: "The Suspension and What It Means"]

[Text] On the face of it, Israel should be satisfied with President Bush's announcement of the suspension of talks with the PLO over its failure to denounce the terrorist action at Nizzanim beach on Shabuoth, because Israel had urged the United States from the start to adopt this tough position.

But Israel's satisfaction is qualified for two reasons: First, the stress the President's announcement laid on the temporary nature of the suspension. What does that mean, and for how long will it remain valid? Does the U.S. Administration believe that 'Arafat will change his mind and renounce terror, something he refused to do over the past three weeks? If he really cares about the continuation of the Tunis talks—which is doubtful—it is reasonable to assume that he will make some meaningless gesture toward the Americans, and in their keenness to resume the dialogue with him, they will consider it a renunciation of terror. There have been precedents for that.

The second reason for Israel's qualified satisfaction to the President's move is that after they showed the PLO "an iron fist," the Americans will feel free (perhaps even obligated) to display a heavy-handed policy toward Israel as well.

Increased pressure on Israel to "take the necessary steps" toward resuming the peace process according to the American version can be expected.

### Ben-Aharon Interviewed

TA2106105490 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English  
1000 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Telephone interview with Yosi Ben-Aharon, director general of Prime Minister's Office, by Re'uven David Miller, on 21 June, place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Ben-Aharon] We think it was the correct decision, and we hope it will open opportunities for moving the peace process forward.

[Miller] President Bush has stressed that he thinks that Palestinians have a major role to play in the peace

process, despite the suspension of talks with the PLO. How is Israel going to respond to this position of the President?

[Ben-Aharon] We agree totally with President Bush that Palestinians have to play a role in the process, and, as a matter of fact, Israel's initiative is directed to such a role for the Palestinians. It is just the PLO that cannot be a valid interlocutor in the process because we believe that the PLO is an opponent to peace, is an obstacle to the process, and cannot be factored into the equation.

[Miller] Does the suspension of talks with PLO free Israeli policy makers to think in fresh directions?

[Ben-Aharon] We are thinking in fresh directions without any direct bearing on this particular suspension. But, as you will recall, the President said that it is a suspension pending a response from the PLO, and that gave it a somewhat temporary nature. We hope that the United States will agree with us, hopefully sooner rather than later, that the PLO cannot fulfill any positive role in the process. This will, without any doubt, enable valid Palestinian Arabs who live with us here in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza to come forward to participate in a dialogue, prepare the grounds for the elections which are envisaged in our initiative, and, hopefully, this will have an impact on the entire situation and put an end to the violence that we are witnessing day in and day out.

### Arens Says Israel Owes Nothing

TA2106114290 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew  
1005 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens has just ended his first visit to the security zone in southern Lebanon. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] is doing an excellent job, the minister said. Referring to President Bush's announcement on the suspension of the dialogue with the PLO, Moshe Arens said the administration did the right thing and Israel does not owe the Americans anything in return. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports from the northern border:

We do not owe the Americans any gesture in return for President Bush's announcement, Defense Minister Moshe Arens declared. It is not a game of haggling and gestures.

[Begin recording] [Arens] We know that it was not an easy decision for the U.S. President and that they weighed it carefully. We also appreciate the problems involved in such a decision, from their viewpoint, because they were sure that their talks with the PLO contributed to advancing the peace process. We did not hold that view, as we were convinced that the PLO remains a terrorist organization and will continue to carry out terror. In the final analysis, the truth was laid bare, and the U.S. Administration also became convinced.

[Hecht] Sir, do you believe that there is a danger that President Bush's decision will lead to an escalation of terror in the region, as even Assistant Secretary of State Kelly said yesterday?

[Arens] I would not even like to try to forecast what those organizations will do. I do not think they can be predicted, but their aim was to deal with terror and this continues to be the case, that we know. [end recording]

Minister Arens said that we are prepared for any eventuality, even in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip.

Referring to Lebanon, the old/new defense minister made sure to stress that he had a part in the success of the security zone and that he did not inherit some ready formula, as Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Rabin often declare.

[Begin Arens recording] As defense minister, I started the evacuation of Lebanon. I pulled the IDF out of the al-Shuf mountains as the first stage of the evacuation of Lebanon. I believe that the current situation in the security zone is good. I also believe it is good that the Lahd forces control Jazzin. [end recording]

Moshe Arens said: I even discovered and appointed General Lahd, Moshe Arens reminded us. There is currently a clear attempt by the PLO and the other terrorist organizations to strengthen their hold in the Sidon area. He also stressed that their cooperation with Hizballah is even graver.

Referring to Saddam Husayn's war cries, Moshe Arens said: You do not expect me to respond to him in the same tone?

[Begin Arens recording] We have known Saddam Husayn for a long time. We know who he is and therefore do not take his declarations lightly. He is somebody who has already initiated wars, the terrible eight-year war against Iran in which, I believe, there were about one million fatalities. He has an army and a capability, and we are prepared for those dangers as well. [end recording]

A senior officer accompanying the minister said: There is no danger that the new minister's conclusions on Lebanon will be any different from those of his predecessor. Things here are going just the way they should.

### Editorial Expresses Gratitude

TA2106140290 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic  
21 Jun 90 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "Our Thanks to Bush; He Has Unshackled Us"]

[Text] We offer our gratitude to the Americans without a fuss, with steady nerves, and without delay. We are grateful to them for suspending the dialogue with the PLO, because the Palestinians were shackled by it. Washington is treating us the way a teacher treats his pupils. Bush wanted to punish us. Up to the time the dialogue was launched, we always asserted that the United States was biased and could not play a role in the peace process. It is very clear now that the U.S. decision to launch the dialogue was a tactical step meant to contain the Palestinian role. Why, then, should we be sad or angry about President Bush's decision to suspend the dialogue?

We do not underestimate or deny the importance of the U.S. position in the international arena. But no matter how much we need the Americans, this decision is an affront to our national dignity and pride.

It is better that we do not engage in a "rhetorical" fight with Washington, despite the disdain shown not only toward our Palestinian people but also toward our entire nation. With this act, Washington has succumbed to Israeli pressures. Thus it has diminished its ability to play a major or dominant role in the peace process.

If the United States has already lost its credibility in the Arab homeland, this decision will deprive it of its remaining friends. It has disqualified itself from influencing events in the Arab world in general, while its influence in the Middle East is on the verge of collapse.

We do not want to repeat the talk about the uselessness of the dialogue, because this is academic now. But we are nonetheless grateful to the United States despite the anguish during the dialogue, which lasted more than one and a half years and which achieved no progress toward mutual understanding or even agreement on the most elementary things, namely recognition of the PLO as the representative of the Palestinian people.

Now it is the Arabs' turn to react to this decision. A decision like Bush's should lead our nation to realize the need to consolidate its solidarity and arrange the Arab house on clear foundations and self-reliance in order to confront this gross challenge to our will.

Finally, we thank Washington because this decision might awaken the Arab giant to revise his positions and create a pressure force that will be felt not only against the United States but also throughout the whole world.

### Shamir Discusses Immigration, Arab Fears

PM2106100090 Paris LE MONDE in French  
21 Jun 90 pp 1,6

[Interview with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Alain Frachon in Jerusalem on 17 June]

[Text] Jerusalem—It is a sign of the uncertainty in the Middle East that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, head of a new government which intends to promote nationalism, feels the urgent need to reassure and adopt the lowest possible profile.

At the age of 75, scarcely showing the effects of a long political crisis, he does not really seem to be worried by his tarnished image in the United States and Europe. It is primarily Israel's neighbors who must be calmed down, because of the virulence of the reactions, at least the verbal reactions, to the arrival in power of a government unanimously accused by the Arab world of "preparing for war."

Jerusalem takes very seriously this series of alarmist statements which could lock the various sides in an

extremely dangerous conflict. The main target of the appeasing remarks made here is King Husayn of Jordan.

King Husayn of Jordan is said to be worried by the prospect of the immigration of Soviet Jews leading to a resurgence in the colonization of the West Bank which would force the Palestinians into exile east of the Jordan. The fragile balance in the kingdom—already shaken by the intifadah—would thus be further threatened and the king forced to seek additional security by establishing closer links with Saddam Husayn's Iraq.

Mr. Shamir said in an interview granted to LE MONDE on Sunday 17 June: He has no reason to be afraid of Israel. Israel has no hostile intention toward him...and is not making any threat, not even a demographic threat. I wonder why he is talking so passionately about this 'tide of immigrants' because almost none of them are going to the territories; you will only find a few exceptions who are not a problem and I have said repeatedly that our policy is not to send them to these territories of Judea, Samaria (the West Bank—LE MONDE editor's note) and Gaza. Everybody living here can see that.

To those who point out that this government comprises parties and men reputed for defending the principle of all-out colonization of the West Bank even if it means expelling some Palestinian residents, Mr. Shamir replied: The Arabs have nothing to fear; immigration is not directed against them; nobody is thinking of expelling anybody, and there is no reason, other than an artificial reason, for the anxiety felt by King Husayn, the Iraqis, the Syrians, or the Palestinians. At the risk of clashing with those he himself calls "the most extreme and radical elements" of his government, the prime minister asked: Can you see any new settlements? If you point out to him that his government's platform, repeated in his inaugural speech, calls for a development of the settlements on the West Bank and in Gaza, he stresses: I said nothing about a 'wave' of colonization or settlements, no such thing; it is not necessary, we want to see the development of the existing population centers.

Less at ease when talking about a "peace process" which is now marking time, Mr. Shamir said he stands by the "initiative" put forward by the previous Likud-Labor Party government (elections in the territories followed by negotiations on autonomy and then, three years later, on the final status of the West Bank and the Gaza strip). He said: I stand by that. Read the government's platform on this point, it is the same as the previous one."

The problem is that the said initiative has constantly been opposed by three of Likud's most important men who now hold key positions—Mr. Sharon, Mr. Modai, and Mr. Levy, the latter being foreign minister. Mr. Shamir hinted that this is a thing of the past and that the three "hardliners" no longer have the choice: They know the government's policy, they have not said anything against it. But he did not seem very encouraging, stating

that "the obstacle is the PLO" which rejects this "gradual approach" and which, by "dominating the intifadah for the time being," is preventing the emerging of other Palestinian interlocutors.

Nothing can shake Mr. Shamir's cast-iron convictions. Is there reason to fear, as many Western observers do, that by dint of rejecting all the Palestinian interlocutors who come forward, Israel will shortly have to face increasingly radical elements? His reply: No, the Europeans do not understand the East, and the Arab world; they now think that there is a wave of Islam, of fundamentalism. But for at least 20 or 30 years people have been explaining that Islam is going to take power in Egypt, for instance. Back in Al-Nasir's day, there was the Muslim Brotherhood wave, these are temporary phenomena.

Although he deplores the current "tone" used by some U.S. leaders toward Israel, he demonstrated his customary optimism by stating that "this will change," that there have "been problems in the past," and that he believes in the "depth" of the friendship between the two countries. However, there was some doubt when it was pointed out to Mr. Shamir that Israel is perhaps a less important "friend" for the United States now that there is detente with the USSR than it was during the cold war; he said: That is a real question. I will not say that this problem does not exist but, despite detente, the United States still needs loyal friends in this part of the world."

#### **Mubarak Message Foresees Cooperation With Levi**

TA2006135990 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew  
1300 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] Egyptian President Husni Mubarak is looking forward to full cooperation with Foreign Minister David Levi in the near future. Our political correspondent Arye Golan reports that this remark was made in a message relayed by Egypt's Ambassador in Israel Muhammad Basyuni from Mubarak to Minister Levi. The message includes get-well wishes.

#### **Jordan's Anti-Israeli Remarks Related to Aid**

JN2006155190 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World  
1335 GMT 20 Jun 90

["Observation" by 'Ezra Shirazi]

[Text] Esteemed listeners, King Husayn of Jordan always claims that he is an advocate of peace and that peace is his ultimate goal. He has even gone so far as to say that he is ready to do the impossible to achieve peace. These assertions by King Husayn about his peaceful intentions are not to be doubted. Every prudent leader—Arab or non-Arab—who is truly concerned with his people's real interests, respects the sanctity of human life, and considers citizens to be the most precious asset, not the cheapest one, must be an advocate of peace and coexistence among peoples and religions. To tell the truth, observers are unanimous in agreeing that King Husayn is a prudent leader who is far from being among those

reckless rulers. How, then, can one reconcile the existing contradiction between being a peace advocate and his recent major contribution to an atmosphere of war hysteria in our region? This was demonstrated by his depiction of hellish, imaginary alleged dangers to the Arab nation and of unfounded allegations that portray Israel as a threat to the entire Arab nation from the Ocean to the Gulf.

Definitely, King Husayn does not believe in what he is propagating. He knows for certain that Israel harbors no hostile intentions toward his kingdom or any Arab country. He also knows that Israel is not at all interested in attacking any Arab or non-Arab state. How can the contradiction between King Husayn's principled stand on peace and his recent propagandistic behavior be interpreted? Most likely, this contradiction can be interpreted in light of King Husayn's urgent need for financial and economic aid from the rich Arab states because of the acute economic crisis his kingdom is experiencing.

However, his attempt to obtain financial aid in this manner is a very negative approach, not only because it is not in line with the aspired peace in our region, but because it also means that, despite all allegations and the resounding statements about Arab solidarity and cooperation, King Husayn saw no hope of getting aid from his brother Arab leaders except through the negative approach represented by spreading lies about the Israeli danger to Jordan and to the entire Arab nation from the Ocean to the Gulf.

#### **IDF Patrol Said Fired at From Jordan 20 Jun**

JN2106071390 *Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World*  
0430 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] An Israeli Defense Forces [IDF] patrol again came under fire from Jordanian territory in the northern Jordan Valley. The incident took place last night close to the Hamadya Kibbutz in Bet She'an.

Our correspondent said gunfire was directed at an IDF patrol but no casualties were reported. The Israeli soldiers returned fire and fired several flares. Jordanian soldiers were seen conducting intensive combing operations in the area. Some military circles expressed the belief that it was an isolated incident of a Jordanian soldier opening fire.

#### **'Crazed' Jordanian Said Responsible for Shooting**

TA2106110190 *Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew*  
21 Jun 90 p A2

[Report by military correspondent Eytan Rabin]

[Excerpt] Security forces believe that a crazed Jordanian soldier operating on his own initiative was responsible for the light arms fired at an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] patrol near Yardenia on the Israeli-Jordanian border on Tuesday morning.

An investigation into the incident shows that only two shots were fired from Jordan at a group of soldiers in the reserves which patrolled along the border road in the Bet She'an Valley. The patrol fired back. IDF troops rushed to the scene and the commander of the Central Command conducted a special investigation into the incident. [passage omitted]

[Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English on 21 Jun in a Joshua Brilliant report quotes a Jordanian official in Amman as saying "there was no infiltration attempt, just a farmer shooting at a wild pig." "An Israeli source later confirmed the shots were fired by hunters."]

#### **Shamir Asks USSR To Ignore Arab Statements**

TA2006112090 *Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew*  
1005 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Report by Avraham Ben-Melekh]

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir today called on the members of the World Zionist Organization Executive in Jerusalem to cut the talk and get down to business. While promising that the government would apply itself to the problems of immigrant absorption, Shamir attempted to secure the continuation of this immigration. He lavished praise on the Soviet Government on its liberalization and the opening of its gates, and appealed to the USSR not to spoil this by curtailing immigration.

[Begin Shamir recording] We call on the Soviet Government not to pay heed to the campaign of incitement and disinformation conducted by Arab leaders. The current Soviet Government has turned its back on the practices of the past, has opened its doors for the Jews to leave, and has implemented liberalization and greater freedom. All these steps are noted by the world, leave their mark in Soviet history, and constitute achievements for the Soviet leadership. We hope that they will not lend their hand to the decrement of these achievements or their besmirching by listening to, or by according credibility to, those whose aim is to harm the State of Israel, its development, and its future. In our eyes, whoever fights against aliyah to Israel stands opposed to Israel's very existence. Therefore, it is very doubtful whether those elements who combat aliyah can be considered to constitute partners to peace agreements. [end recording]

The assertion that immigrants are being directed to the territories is a lie worthy of Goebbels. The war against aliyah is a war against the very existence of the state.

[Begin Shamir recording] Whoever is interested in really knowing the truth knows very well that the Israeli Government has no policy of directing immigrants to Judea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip. The immigrants themselves choose to live in different locations in Israel. My colleagues, and myself, have dozens of times declared that we have no policy of directing immigrants to Judea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip. If someone does

not believe us, he can check, because Israel is a free and open country. [end recording]

Reacting to statements from Arab countries regarding Israeli intentions to begin a war, Shamir said that this was a base lie, and that Israel is desirous of peace.

[Begin Shamir recording] Several elements have joined together in the Arab world in order to create artificial tensions in the region. They wish to prove to the world that the massive immigration to Israel, and Israel's success in achieving peaceful development, brings the danger of war. They will not succeed because lies are always found out. Sensible people will understand that aliyah does not pose the slightest danger to anyone. On the contrary, we are investing all our strength in aliyah and its absorption. We have no interest in any military adventures. [end recording]

Shamir said that 45,000 apartments are scheduled to be built this year, compared to 3,000 last year.

#### **Alignment MK's Support Rabin for Party Head**

TA2006113490 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew  
1100 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] A majority of the Knesset Members [MK's] who belong to the Alignment's Knesset faction support placing Yitzhaq Rabin at the head of the Labor Party in lieu of Shim'on Peres.

Our correspondent Yo'el Nir reports that 20 MK's—out of the 38 members of the Alignment faction—met in the Knesset today, and expressed their support for Mr. Rabin. An additional eight MK's announced their backing of Rabin, even though they could not attend the meeting. Die-hard doves were also to be found among Rabin's supporters, including MK Arye Eli'av. Our correspondent noted that during today's meeting, practical ways were discussed to bring about Peres' replacement, including the holding of early elections in local branches in approximately two months.

**Papers, Officials on U.S. Dialogue Suspension****AL-DUSTUR**

*JN2106105090 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic  
21 Jun 90 p 1*

[Editorial: "On the Subject of the U.S.-Palestinian Dialogue"]

[Text] After a difficult political labor, U.S. President George Bush announced his government's decision to suspend the dialogue with the PLO. This decision was made at a time when several facts have already become crystal clear on the Middle East political horizon. We will now shed light on these facts, since the United States has suspended the dialogue.

First, at no time was the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue an American favor. It was a glaring objective fact that says that the United States had tried for two decades to achieve peace in the region without the PLO and failed in all attempts because it stupidly ignored the acknowledged Palestinian interlocutor.

Second, the dialogue was not an end in itself, but a principle diplomatic channel to further peace efforts in the region. Therefore, suspending the dialogue only means an intentional closure of a vital communication channel. This will no doubt lead to undermining the ground for all the initiatives, attempts, and moves, including the U.S. initiative itself, to end the deadlock in the region.

Third, using the seaborne operation on the Tel Aviv coast as an excuse to make such a serious decision—we mean the decision to suspend the dialogue with a major party in the peace process—constitutes an important concession to Shamir's extremist right-wing government and a free gift which Zionist diehards will fully exploit to continue their aggression and settlement expansion.

Fourth, the suspension of this stumbling dialogue will only be construed in the Arab World and the world at large as a resounding U.S. withdrawal from the peace process or a frank admission of the failure of the U.S. political initiative, which the U.S. Administration claims is urging all parties concerned to proceed on the path of dialogue and negotiations in order to pave the way for the achievement of peace in the region.

In view of all this, we believe that the suspension of the dialogue by the U.S. side is obvious political blackmail. It does not befit a superpower, which has an enormous responsibility toward security and peace in the Middle East, to resort to such an act, which will only weaken the dialogue and even reverse it and increase the number of those on the other side calling for abandoning it or simply cutting it off.

While hoping that the United States would go back on this decision and ignore Zionist pressure to prevent any contact or dialogue with the PLO, we call on the Arab states to learn the lesson of this stumbling course by renewing the

call for convening the international conference, which provides the best and most practical option for furthering peace efforts and achieving a negotiated settlement within the framework of international legitimacy.

**AL-RA'Y Claims 'Blackmail'**

*JN2106073390 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 21 Jun 90  
p 1, 21*

[Editorial: "Blackmail"]

[Text] The decision taken by the U.S. Administration to suspend dialogue with the PLO yields only one result; it is a decision to blackmail the PLO, apart from the fact that it suggests that this same administration was not serious about its policy when it started a dialogue with the PLO eight months ago. And more than that, one could say that this decision is the essence of the gift Washington presented to Israel as a reward for the Black Sunday massacre. It is also the green light that could encourage the Israeli aggressors to commit bigger crimes against the innocent civilians in the occupied territories.

The U.S. Administration's decision represents the continuation of a chapter of deception started by Washington a year and a half ago, whose objective was to wrench a PLO recognition of Israel. The U.S. Administration's suspension of dialogue with the PLO was plotted from the very beginning. The administration was eagerly awaiting an incident that Washington could use as a pretext to wash its hands of the dialogue. It created that pretext itself from the Palestinian seaborne operation, which took place on the Tel Aviv shore on 30 May. However, its step to abandon the dialogue exempts the PLO from recognizing Israel and does not commit it to any condition that falls within the framework of the trickery practiced by Washington. There is no need to recall that when the PLO renounced terrorism, it did not offer anything new since it never practiced terrorism and was never a terrorist organization. In addition, this renunciation does not mean any commitment toward abandoning any form of the legitimate struggle to retrieve the usurped Palestinian rights.

The anti-PLO Washington decision is in itself an extremist decision and strengthens the conviction that the U.S. Administration and the Israeli aggressors do have a joint policy to escalate tension in the region and push it toward a state of turbulence, thus creating a cover for Israel to achieve its expansionist schemes. We must point out here that Washington's involvement in this adventure is dangerous. The strong Iraqi warning against attacking Iraq or any other Arab or Islamic state is a serious and present warning. The U.S. Administration errs if it believes that the time has come to liquidate the Palestine question, or that it can force the Arabs to bow down before the Israeli aggressors. From another perspective, we call on the EEC countries to enter an immediate dialogue with the PLO to affirm the seriousness of the recommendations taken by the European

Parliament in which it called for supporting the Palestinian people so that they can retrieve their usurped rights.

Thus, there remains nothing for us to tell Washington except that its last decision will not terrorize the Arabs because the Arabs have opted for life and are determined to defend themselves and the future of their generations, regardless of the challenges they face.

#### Editorial Views 'Gift' to Shamir

JN2106063390 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English  
21 Jun 90 p 4

[Editorial: "An American Gift to Shamir?"]

[Text] Finally, the U.S. has gone ahead and broken its 18-month-old dialogue with the PLO, dealing a severe blow to hopes that Washington would sooner or later come to terms with the reality that it cannot hope to push the Palestinians any further to the wall. The American decision to break the dialogue (for whatever the restricted Tunis contacts were worth) plays right into the hands of the new extremist government of Yitzhak Shamir in Israel not only because extremism will be bred and fuelled on both sides of the Arab-Israeli conflict in the absence of any movement towards peace in the Middle East, but also the stage will be set for Shamir and Company to exploit rising tensions and implement their plans.

We were hoping against that the U.S. administration had realized and appreciated within itself that the PLO was and is indeed serious in its quest for a just settlement of the Palestinian problem and had gone far enough in making concessions but gaining virtually very little in return. Notwithstanding the fact that the terms the U.S. has set for resumption of the dialogue are no different from the demands that Washington made on the PLO leadership earlier, it is clear that it will be practically almost impossible for the PLO to meet them even half way, given the mood of militancy and extremism that would be generated among the Palestinian constituency by the break in dialogue.

Words of warning from PLO as well as Arab leaders that any American move to break the dialogue would lead to extremism and violence of the same kind that brought about Wednesday's decision appear to have fallen on deaf ears in Washington. The American decision-makers have only themselves to blame if their ill-advised step is seen not only as a slap on the face of moderates in the region but also as a gift to Shamir's new government.

#### Amman Radio Reports Statement

JN2106065690 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic  
0400 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] U.S. President George Bush last night announced the suspension of dialogue with the PLO which began between the two sides 18 months ago. Following is a detailed report from our Washington correspondent:

[Begin recording] This announcement came in a prepared statement that President Bush read out before journalists during a visit to Huntsville, Alabama. President Bush said that based on the recommendation of Secretary of State James Baker he decided to suspend the dialogue between the United States and the PLO pending a satisfactory response from the organization to resolve problems associated with the Palestinian sea-borne attack, which he repeatedly described as a terrorist act, on the Israeli coast on 30 May. President Bush pointed out that the Palestine Liberation Front, which launched the attack, is a constituent group of the PLO, and its leader Abu-Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas] is a member of the PLO Executive Committee. He said the size of the attacking force and the geographic target area strongly indicate that civilians would have been the target, according to him.

President Bush continued that the United States has requested the PLO to condemn the operation, dissociate itself from it, and begin taking disciplinary measures against Abu-al-Abbas. He added that his government has given the PLO sufficient time to tackle this issue. However, the PLO did not take the requested measures. The U.S. president admitted that the PLO has dissociated itself from the incident and issued a statement condemning, in principle, attacks against civilians. However, he said this alone is not sufficient.

Regarding the dialogue, President Bush recalled that the dialogue began on 14 December 1988 after PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat acknowledged Israel's right to exist, accepted UN Resolutions 242 and 338, and renounced terror. President Bush expressed his belief that the dialogue between the two sides throughout the past 18 months has made progress in the peace process. He said that any time that the PLO is prepared to take the necessary steps, the United States will be prepared to promptly resume the dialogue.

President Bush reiterated his government's commitment to the pursuit of a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and to a just and lasting peace on the basis of UN Resolutions 242 and 338 and the principles of territory for peace, ensuring Israel's security, and recognizing the political rights of the Palestinians. President Bush said the Palestinians' participation is vital to any successful peace process and that there are real opportunities for Palestinians in this process.

Regarding Israeli settlements, the U.S. president said his country's policy is clear; it is opposed to the establishment of new settlements and to the financing of any settlements outside the 1967 borders.

Nicola Hanna, Washington. [end recording]

### Minister Calls for Retraction

JN2106111690 Amman Domestic Service in English  
1100 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Jordan today expressed regret over the United States' decision to suspend dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Information Minister Mr. Ibrahim 'Izz-al-Din said the move constitutes a blow to the Middle East peace efforts and hinders the clear trend followed by the PLO in its dialogue with the U.S. Administration in the past month. The PLO, Mr. 'Izz-al-Din said, has accepted all international resolutions to achieve peace in the region. The minister expressed hope that the U.S. Administration will rescind its decision to suspend the dialogue since there is no other alternative except through the PLO, which is the legitimate and sole representative of the Palestinian people.

### Foreign Minister Discusses Israel, Iraq

PM2006141290 Paris LE FIGARO in French  
19 Jun 90 p 5

[Interview with Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim by Stephane Marchand in Amman—date not given]

[Text] Amman—[Marchand] The emigration of Soviet Jews to the occupied territories and the formation of the new Israeli Government worry you. Do you see this as a threat of war?

[Al-Qasim] The two main elements in peace are the people—the Palestinians—and their land. The two are threatened by the Soviet emigration. We respect the fundamental right of each person to emigration, but it must never harm others. If the emigres settle in the occupied territories, the Palestinians will have their land confiscated and will be expelled. When you think that it was human rights that the Soviets invoked when allowing the Jews to emigrate!

In addition, it is obvious that Mr. Shamir wants to direct emigration toward the occupied territories. At first, to introduce the idea gently, he said that barely one percent of Soviet Jews would settle there.

He is now talking of 11 percent, including those from occupied Jerusalem. In addition, the new government's program clearly indicates that he considers the occupied territories as an integral part of "greater Israel." Moreover, he is clearly stating that Jordan is already a Palestinian state. All that destroys the chances of peace.

The world must exert pressure on those who are rejecting peace. At the beginning of the century, the Jews held seven percent of Palestine. For the sake of peace, the Palestinians are now prepared to leave them 70 percent of their land. Do you not think that that is enough of a concession?

[Marchand] What Arab country would launch into a war simply to defend the Palestinians' rights?

[Al-Qasim] The Palestinians. They are currently defending their rights in the occupied territories. And Jordan will react against any aggressor at all. It is a regional problem. It is regional and Islamic.

[Marchand] In this period of high tension, Jordan is moving ever closer to Iraq. Has that country become the leader of the Arab world?

[Al-Qasim] Iraq is a responsible state in the region. It supports the PLO's moderation in its search for peace. Baghdad has acted intelligently in Lebanon by withdrawing a long time ago from all approaches that might complicate the situation (support for General 'Awn against the Syrians—LE FIGARO editor's note). The Iraqis have also managed to make peace with Iran.

[Marchand] But in the West, Iraq is seen as a dangerous country....

[Al-Qasim] Israel has lost much of its international support in recent years. It has lost its democratic image as a result of its brutality toward Palestinian children. With the improvement in East-West relations, Israel will also lose its anticommunist strategic importance for the United States. In this very delicate situation, Israel is seeking a new role and that country wants an external enemy.

It has found Iraq, although Israel is the only country in the world that refuses to allow its nuclear installations to be inspected. If Israel fears Iraq, it is not because of its chemical weapons, which the other Arab countries also possess. It is because Israel's expansionist appetite has just met its limit. A new spirit has emerged in the Arab world since Iraq succeeded in surviving a long eight-year war. This success is a nightmare for Israel, which has always striven to wage very short wars, with the certainty of a rapid cease-fire—thanks to the United Nations. The threat of a long war is now emerging.

[Marchand] The Arabs are not giving Jordan much help.

[Al-Qasim] We are defending the Arab homeland along our long border with Israel. Jordan is prepared to give its citizens' lives for that defense. But to make a contribution, the Arabs must give us material assistance.

[Marchand] Do you think that Israel will one day attack the Arab states?

[Al-Qasim] Has it not already frequently done so to expand? In 1948, 1967, and 1982, it acquired new territory. And the Israelis are short of pretexts. The world is waking up to the fundamental facts and understands that little David is now a big Goliath. Of course, they will try to blow Islamic fundamentalism and the so-called Iraqi threat out of proportion. To safeguard their role, they must present this region as a threat to the West.

**'Official' Source Denies Shots at Israeli Patrol**

JN2006114390 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic  
1100 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] In Amman, an official Jordanian source today categorically denied that shots were fired at an Israeli patrol from Jordanian territory last night. The official Jordanian source said that the Jordanian Army units deployed on the cease-fire lines have neither observed any suspect movements nor heard any shots.

The Jordanian denial is a reply to an Israeli military sources' statement today that shots were fired from Jordanian territory at an Israeli patrol near a kibbutz between the southern end of the Tiberias Lake and the city of Bet She'an in northern Israel.

**Jordan Opens Tripoli Embassy; Husayn To Visit**

PM1906092690 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 18 Jun 90 p 2

[Zaki Shihab report: "Jordanian Embassy Opened In Tripoli; Husayn Expected To Visit Libya Soon"]

[Text] The embassy of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in the Libyan capital opened its doors yesterday morning for the first time in six years amid reports that King Husayn of Jordan intends to visit Libya shortly at an invitation extended to him by Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi at the extraordinary Arab summit held in Baghdad recently.

Arab diplomatic sources in the Libyan capital have told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that Jordanian Charge d'Affaires Ahmad Jaradat arrived in Tripoli the day before yesterday.

The sources emphasized that King Husayn, who has accepted Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's invitation, has promised to take it up very soon. Reliable Jordanian sources have been quoted as saying that the Libyan Government will reopen its embassy in Amman and appoint an ambassador before the Jordanian monarch's visit to Tripoli.

In Amman it was announced yesterday that the Jordanian Council of Ministers has decided to appoint Hisham al-Muhaysin Jordanian ambassador to Libya.

**Ambassador Named**

JN1906121890 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English  
19 Jun 90 p 1

[Text] Amman (J.T.)—The government has nominated Hisham Al-Muhaysin to serve as Jordan's ambassador to Libya, according to informed sources. In April, Jordan sent two diplomats, including Al-Muhaysin, to Tripoli to take charge of the Jordanian embassy which was burned down by Libyan crowds in 1984, prompting Amman to break diplomatic relations with Libya. Jordan announced it was restoring relations with Libya in 1987 ahead of the Arab League summit in Amman.

**Statement Issued on Al-Hirawi's Damascus Visit**

NC2006164790 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic  
1530 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Statement issued by the Lebanese presidential office on President Ilyas al-Hirawi's visit to Syria on 20 June]

[Text] His Excellency President of the Republic Ilyas al-Hirawi paid a short working visit to Syria where he met with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad. They discussed recent Lebanese developments.

His excellency the president stressed the legitimate authority's position of dealing with all Lebanese with the spirit of national responsibility and full openness. He also expressed the legitimate authority's gratitude and appreciation for all the goodwill initiatives that have helped preserve the unity of Lebanon's land and people, and its belief that the process of reconciliation and peace can embrace all Lebanese who really want to help save their homeland and put an end to the people's sufferings. The president also stressed that the national accord document that was approved in al-Ta'if is the sole available means for Lebanon's salvation and for ending its suffering.

President Hafiz al-Asad expressed his full support for the Lebanese legitimacy's actions and efforts to achieve the process of reconciliation, salvation, and peace through the national accord document. President al-Asad also stressed his desire and the desire of the fraternal Syrian Government and people to continue their efforts to accelerate the solution in Lebanon and restore security and stability there.

**French Envoy Scheer Returns From Damascus**

NC2106092790 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain  
in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] French envoy Francois Scheer returned to Beirut after holding a three-hour meeting with Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'. Quoting an official Syrian source, AFP reports that the two sides exchanged views on the situation in Lebanon, particularly the developments in East Beirut. The Syrian source added that views of the two sides were identical on the need to promote the al-Ta'if agreement and strengthen the legitimate authority in Lebanon.

Scheer will resume his discussions with Lebanese officials in Beirut today. The discussions will center on the proposals made to resolve the current crisis.

**Fatah Group Reportedly Attacks SLA Post**

NC2106060390 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon  
in Arabic 0445 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] The Voice of the South, the mouthpiece of the South Lebanese Army [SLA], has reported that a group of gunmen, whose affiliation is not known, used rockets and automatic weapons to attack an SLA position in Jazzin at dawn yesterday. The radio added that the gunmen retreated after getting lost in a mine field and that several mines went off, wounding several gunmen.

However, an informed source in northern Israel has confirmed that the attackers belong to the 'Arafat-led Fatah and that a Palestinian fighter was killed and another captured during the attack.

**'Security Sources' Claim Israel Shelled Towns**

NC2106061590 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic  
0430 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Excerpts] According to security sources, the Israeli occupation authorities have brought reinforcements to the occupied border strip, particularly the Kafr Falus front. Eighteen military vehicles have been seen heading to the Tallat Kawkabah position and Tilal al-Ahmadiyah. Armored cars have been seen near al-Hasbani bridge. [passage omitted]

Joint Israeli-Lahdist patrols raked the liberated areas and fired artillery shells at the mountain paths between the liberated and occupied areas particularly in Jabbur, al-Dallafah, and al-Qatrani. AFP reports that two shells fell near Shab'a township. The occupation forces directed machine-gun fire at the townships of Frun and al-Ghanduriyah and burned wide areas of wheat fields, olive groves, and vineyards. The enemy force prevented the citizens from extinguishing the fire by opening sniper fire at them.

**'Awn Discusses Relations With Syria, Israel**

NC2006072790 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified  
Lebanon in Arabic 0600 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] In an interview published today, General Michel 'Awn said that Lebanon and Syria constitute a joint front against Israel and that the Syrian presence in Lebanon must be defined in direct negotiations between the two countries.

Gen. Michel 'Awn added that there is no deep-rooted dispute with Syria, but only a difference over the nature of the ties Syria has established with Lebanon.

Responding to a question about Israel's stance toward Lebanese Christians, Gen. 'Awn said: We are at war with those who are cooperating with Israel, which we do not and will not recognize.

**Ambassador Dismisses Shamir's Call to Al-Asad**

JN2106095390 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 21  
Jun 90 pp 1,18

[Text] Tunis, (QNA)—Ahmad 'Isa, Syrian ambassador in Tunis, has said Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's call for a meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad does not deserve any comment. Shamir is accustomed to such nonsense and maneuverings.

In a statement to the newspaper AL-SAHAFAH AL-TUNISIYAH published here yesterday, the ambassador said the Syrian position is known to Shamir. He explained that Shamir's call is no more than political banter and an attempt to return the ball which the Americans placed in his court when they gave him the White House telephone number if he wants peace. Shamir is now trying to throw the ball into the Arab court, the ambassador said.

The Syrian ambassador affirmed that Israel has not abandoned and will never abandon its well-known strategy and dreams to build Greater Israel. He said: Israeli leaders are daily planning the possibility of singling out one Arab country after the other. Therefore, Israel will in no way go back on its strategy or recognize the PLO and the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

**Radio Urges Massing Resources Against Israel**

JN1506145090 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic  
1130 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: One of the most prominent things that attract the attention of political observers in light of Israel's serious escalation campaign in the region is the U.S. position toward Israel's threats—voiced by officials and leaders—as well as its aggressive and expansionist plans and schemes, and rejection of any settlement formula.

Undoubtedly, the U.S. position astonishes because it is not based on objective and balanced grounds that take into account developments in the situation and the role played by Israel to worsen this situation. Washington knows more than anyone else that Israel, with its expansionist and settlement plans and its beating of the drums of war, is the first and main party responsible for the volatile situation in the region, especially since Shamir's new government, which includes the symbols of Israeli extremism and terrorism, has come about solely on the basis of the rejection of all international initiatives and efforts to achieve peace in the region, including American proposals contained in the Baker plan despite the fact that this plan cannot lead to a real permanent, just, and comprehensive peace in the region. In spite of all this, Israel has taken a hostile attitude toward this plan and vehemently rejected its clauses. It declared that it would pursue the Shamir plan, which seeks continued Israeli occupation of the occupied Arab territories, rejection of the Palestinian people's national and pan-Arab rights, and imposition of the Israeli fait accompli.

The United States, which realizes all of this and understands the structure of the new Israeli government under Shamir, has apparently played a double role toward this government. When the United States directs criticism—and it has already done so—against Israel and the objectives of its new government, it quickly links the criticism to similar things in connection with the Arabs. When the United States shows its bias in favor of and support and backing for Israel, however, it links this practical bias with only a verbal and theoretical position toward the Arabs.

If the United States wishes to show that it follows a balanced policy, it must proceed from a clear, specific position, pointing an accusing finger at the party that obstructs and rejects peace efforts and attempts to calm the situation, and to the source that threatens to explode this situation.

The U.S. Administration knows that Shamir's government has put the region on the brink of the abyss and that it will only deal with the formulas for settlement through the viewpoint of expansion, settlement, and occupation, and through the expulsion of Arabs and more massacres and crimes against Arab citizens in the occupied Arab territories.

In spite of all this, the United States is still urging the Israelis to respond positively to its efforts to get the peace process moving—efforts that were totally demolished by Shamir's new government through the agreement among the Likud and the small extremist and religious racist parties. This agreement stressed that Jewish settlement in all Israeli areas is the right of all Israelis and constitutes part of Israel's security. It also stressed that the government would strengthen and improve settlements. This comes at a time when the United States, through President Bush, voiced rejection and disapproval of Israeli settlements in the West Bank and Gaza, particularly in Jerusalem.

However, when Baker demanded a swift positive response to his initiative from Shamir's government, Vice President Dan Quayle expressed the United States' concern over Israel's military superiority. In his support of the Israeli position, Quayle used the term employed by the enemy leaders when referring to the occupied Arab territories—Judaea and Samaria.

Where is then the balance and objectivity in American policies? Where is the concern for the effectiveness of the U.S. role in the peace process if events are giving the answer to its injustice toward the Arabs and support for Israel?

Undoubtedly, the Israeli challenges have escalated. The only way to answer these challenges is to harden the Arab position and to formulate a unified Arab strategy of action to face the developments and consequences stemming from Israel's attempts to push the region into its fire, and to face the aggressive expansionist position

which Israel represents and which can only be confronted by massing all Arab resources and energies in the main battle between the Arab nation and the Israeli enemy.

### **Commentary Claims Israeli Leaders Against Peace**

*JN1906172190 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic  
1130 GMT 19 Jun 90*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: After the uproar created by the current Israeli government because of its aggressive character, Shamir and his aides are now trying with deceptive statements to dissipate the doubts in many world capitals and to circumvent the large-scale wave of condemnation, especially since the statements of U.S. State Secretary James Baker—notwithstanding the attempts to play them down—amplified Israel's rejection of a just peace and settlement in the region. Warmongers and advocates of expelling the Palestinian Arabs from the West Bank, Gaza, and Jerusalem have assumed the plum posts in the government and its committees: A security committee supporting a strongarm policy was formed in order to enhance Israel's military policy. This committee comprises 11 members, including Sharon and Eytan. Sharon as well was appointed head of a ministerial committee whose task is to expand settlement activity and absorb the new Jews. As for the mini-government, it included Shamir, Sharon, Peres, and Moda'i. If all these indications have any significance whatsoever, it would be that storm clouds are formed in the sky of the region. No one expects Shamir to be other than what he is—an advocate of Greater Israel and a rejectionist of a just peace. Similarly, no one expects Sharon to be other than what he is—the mastermind of the Sabra and Shatila massacres, and the engineer of the Zionist invasion of Lebanon. Likewise, no one expects Eytan to turn into someone other than the Eytan who calls for the mass deportation of the Palestinian Arabs from their territories by all means available, including violence.

The road to peace is clear, and the foundations of peace are clear as well. These are spelled out by the international resolutions issued by the Security Council and the UN General Assembly, foremost of which are the Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories and recognition of the rights of the Palestinian people. As for the road to peace, it is represented by a UN-sponsored international

conference with the participation of all the parties concerned, and the contribution of the Security Council members. The enemy leaders, however, reject a withdrawal from the occupied territories, and consider them to be already liberated. Some of them are calling for the immediate annexation of these territories. They also deny the Palestinians any right, and insist on suppressing the Palestinian intifadah by force. Moreover, they reject the international conference. They even reject the self-same U.S. plans—plans which take Zionist ambitions into consideration and ignore a great deal of Arab rights—although the United States provides Israel with everything from foodstuffs to guns, tanks, and airplanes. The enemy leaders reject all of this, and seek to mislead the world by their deceptive talk about peace. They are planning, furthermore, for aggression and massacres, under the pretext of fighting terrorism and protecting peace, although their daily practices are injurious to peace. The mania of terrorism and oppression has reached the extent of making them shell a clinic for unweaned children in Gaza, run by the UNRWA, with bombs and poisonous gases.

The Arabs have responded to the will of the international community in establishing a solid peace in the Middle East. Their positions, moreover, have expressed their support for any international effort conducive to establishing a just and comprehensive peace. Israel alone is challenging the international community and opposing the worldwide trend toward detente and peace with more aggression and plans to establish Greater Israel and expel the rest of the Palestinians from their territories. Such an approach threatens stability worldwide. Therefore, this approach should be met with deterrent positions.

Western Europe, the Soviet Union, and many other countries have voiced the need to protect the Palestinian people from the Zionist oppression and the deportation schemes, and the need to convene a UN-sponsored international peace conference. This call is primarily addressed to the United States, which has up until now prevented the convocation of this conference and the adoption of deterrent measures by the Security Council. It is time the United States responded to the demands of the world and to the call of justice, put an end to this Zionist belligerence, and responded to international efforts aimed at convening the international conference and establishing a just, comprehensive settlement after the failure of unilateral deals has been proven. There will be no peace in the region unless it is comprehensive and just.

## Afghanistan

### Najibullah Sends Message to Perez de Cuellar

LD2006225190 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto  
1530 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Message from Afghan President Najibullah to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar in New York—read by announcer]

[Text] Our Excellency Javier Perez de Cuellar, I want to convey the best wishes of the Afghan people and Government to Your Excellency and the United Nations for your constant efforts to restore peace in Afghanistan and end the intervention and foreign interference which have been profoundly experienced by us at various stages.

Your Excellency, more than two years have elapsed since the signing of the Geneva accords and nearly a year and a half has elapsed since the withdrawal of the Soviet military forces from Afghanistan. The year and a half of our independent defense of the Republic of Afghanistan in the face of the intervention and foreign interference which has been accompanied by enormous difficulties as well as heroic resistance by the patriots of Afghanistan, have proved the futility of war and the impossibility of finding a military solution to our country's problems. Here again we are witness to noticeable changes in the political atmosphere of the country in the strengthening of adherence to peace, talks and understanding between various belligerent forces as well as changes in public opinion in our country.

Now the need for constructive political dialogue and a political solution to the existing events is changing the atmosphere inside and outside Afghanistan more than ever before into one of dominating desire. The results of the meeting of heads of states and governments in the Nonaligned Movement and at the 44th session of the UN General Assembly as well as the results of the process of talks between the leaders of the USSR and the United States and other important international forums indicate positive changes in the search for a settlement of the Afghan question by political and peaceful means.

The Republic of Afghanistan, during all stages of talks and since the conclusion of the Geneva accords as well as during the observation period of the implementation of these accords, has attached a fundamental role to the United Nations in settling our country's problems. We have separately highlighted the necessity of the participation of the United Nations in starting a dialogue, holding general elections and the international supervision of them, and also in implementing our proposals on the convocation of an international conference to solve the external aspects of the existing issues in our country. We are completely confident that in this phase of profound political changes, the United Nations can play its role in strengthening the trend toward talks and a political solution.

While expressing gratitude for your great and friendly efforts to help the people of Afghanistan, I would like to

repeat my invitation to you to visit Afghanistan to consider the present situation and the realities already mentioned. I am very confident that due to the great respect and prestige that you enjoy in the international community and due to your detailed understanding of events in our country, your visit to Afghanistan would give a new momentum to the practical realization of a political solution and would produce fruitful results in the solution of our country's problems and the maintenance of peace.

### Najibullah To Represent Security at Party Congress

LD2006131890 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto  
1530 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan, general secretary of the PDPA, and supreme commander of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan, was elected in absentia—unanimously to the jubilation of the participants—as the representative of Department V and the Health Services Department of the Ministry of State Security to the PDPA 2d Congress at their party conference yesterday.

The military section of the BIA [BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY] reports that esteemed Najibullah has been elected as a representative to the PDPA 2d Congress in recognition of his profound care and support for the Armed Forces of the republic of Afghanistan.

Also, a number of the party members of the aforementioned department have been elected representatives to the PDPA 2d Congress.

### Hekmatyar Takes 'Tougher' Stance Against AIG

BK1906102990 Karachi DAWN in English  
19 Jun 90 p 3

[Text] Peshawar, June 18—Hezb-e Islami Afghanistan led by Eng. Gulbuddin Hekmatyar appears to have decided to take tougher stance against the policy of the Afghan Interim Government (AIG) towards the establishing of a Loya 'jirga' which would endorse election of the future head of state of Afghanistan.

A large number of commanders from various areas of Afghanistan supporting the Hezb-e Islami have gathered in Peshawar and issued a warning to the AIG, led by Sebghatullah Mojaddedi, to refrain from sending any delegation inside Afghanistan for the formation of a jirga. They said they would resist and even arrest the delegates if they were sent into Afghanistan.

The Afghan commanders have also demanded that Prof. Mojaddedi step down in favour of a "suitable" man who "will not fall in the lap of the Western planners".

**'Rival Groups' Explode Ammunition Caches**

*LD1806190690 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto  
1530 GMT 18 Jun 90*

[Text] Ammunition caches of the extremist groups of Wahabi Sayyaf and Rabbani in the area of Mirzakah of Mangal in Paktia Province were recently exploded. BAKHTAR's military section reports that in these caches, which exploded when rival groups planted mines, hundreds of surface-to-surface Sakr missiles, missiles, and thousands of rounds of ammunition for assorted weapons were destroyed and great material losses were inflicted on the local people.

**Military Operations in Nangarhar Reported 18 Jun**

*LD1806191190 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto  
1530 GMT 18 Jun 90*

[Text] The heroic Armed Forces units based in Nangarhar continually strengthen the positions they have recently captured in north and northeast, and have high combat readiness. Pakistani agents over the past four days have intermittently fired with heavy weapons on some first lines of the units and residential areas. As a result, two members of the Armed Forces and two civilians were martyred, and six members of the forces and two residents have been injured. In response to those criminal acts, artillery and air force conducted strikes and raids on warmongers' positions. As a result, over the past four days 41 warmongers, have been ousted from combat lines, and their three rocket launchers, two mortars and one vehicle loaded with arms and ammunition have been destroyed. Some units mounted combat operations to the south and southwest of Darunta area on 17 June to prevent enemy fire on the area. As a result, a number of enemy positions have been destroyed. Units have been deployed in suitable trenches, and the enemy's 32 rocket launcher shells, 60 mortar shells, and seven recoilless gun shells have been captured.

The source adds that units based in Khowst discharge their duties with high combat morale, and are prepared for any probable attack of the armed extremists, Pakistani military, and Saudi Wahhabi mercenaries. The enemies of our country and of our people's tranquility fired intermittently over the past four days with heavy weapons on a number of security posts and on residential areas in Zazimaidan, Gorboz, Ismailkhel, and Yaqubi, and on some areas of the town of Khowst. To neutralize those criminal acts, reciprocal strikes and weapons fire have been concentrated on the positions of the Pakistani agents. As a result, over the past four days 47 warmongers have been ousted from combat lines, and one set of their missiles, two rocket launchers, and three mortars have been destroyed; as result of the weapons fire of elements associated with Pakistan, six members of the units have been injured.

According to the same source, armed extremists, Pakistani military, and Saudi Wahhabis have fired intermittently and sporadically over the past four days on security posts in Torkotal and [word indistinct], and on

security posts in the security belt of Qandahar city. As a result, over the past four days three members of the units were martyred and six others were injured. In response, artillery strikes and air raids have been conducted on the resistance areas of the enemies of our country and people. As a result, 33 warmongers have been ousted from combat lines, and their seven motor vehicles loaded with arms, ammunition, and their personnel have been destroyed.

**Four Missiles Purchased From Opposition Groups**

*LD1906172390 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto  
1530 GMT 19 Jun 90*

[Text] As many as four SAKR-30 surface-to-surface missiles have recently been purchased from armed opposition groups in the Muhammad Agha area of Logar Province in line with Decree 204 dated 9 October 1987. The military section of the BIA [BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY] says the price of the rockets has been paid to the other side in keeping with the decree.

**Mujahidin Operations in Paghman Reported 19 Jun**

*BK1906023290 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu  
0200 GMT 19 Jun 90*

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, the mujahidin have killed many Kabul regime troops in various operations. They killed eight officers and soldiers in an attack on a military post in Paghman Province. The mujahidin also occupied a post of the Kabul regime militia in (Karazmir). Twelve militiamen were killed in the attack.

**Jaji Tribe Drives Out 'Extremist Groups'**

*LD1906174990 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto  
1530 GMT 19 Jun 90*

[Text] The positions of Rabbani and Mawlawi Nabi extremist groups in 'Ali Kheyli District were attacked by the Jaji tribe on 15 June. The positions were thus destroyed. The weapons and ammunition were seized and the men attached to these extremist groups were forced to come out.

The Jaji people attacked these positions because the men and leaders of the extremist groups lacked consideration for the local traditions and also created obstacles in implementation of tribal unity decisions and resolutions.

All installations in the center of the extremist groups were destroyed and set on fire. Their activities were thus ended in 'Ali Kheyli Region.

**Bangladesh****Ershad To Make Five-Day Visit to PRC 28 Jun**

*BK2006165690 Dhaka Domestic Service in English  
1530 GMT 20 Jun 90*

[Text] President Ershad goes to Beijing on the 28th of this month on a five-day state visit to China. The visit

will take place at the invitation of Chinese President Yang Shangkun. President Ershad will be accompanied by Begum Raushan Ershad.

Chinese Ambassador Chen Songlu hosted a dinner in Dhaka last night in honor of President Ershad to mark his forthcoming visit to China.

Speaking on the occasion, President Ershad expressed the hope that the bonds of friendship between Bangladesh and China would be further strengthened in the coming days. He said the visit will provide an opportunity to renew his (?contacts) with the Chinese leadership to further widen the areas of cooperation between the two friendly countries. Lauding the developments that have taken place in different fields under the present leadership in China, the president said Bangladesh has many things to learn from China from its development.

Ambassador Chen Songlu said the two countries have established a solid foundation of friendly cooperation which fully accords to the fundamental interest of peace in Asia and the world.

#### **Policemen Die in Clash With Tribal Rebels**

BK2106014690 Hong Kong AFP in English 1804 GMT  
20 Jun 90

[Text] Chittagong, Bangladesh, June 20 (AFP)—Three of eight Bangladeshi policemen who were seriously wounded in a clash Wednesday [20 June] with tribal rebels in the dense jungles of Chittagong died in hospital, security sources said. The sources said the three men died of bullet wounds at the Rangamati hospital where five others were still being treated.

A group of 30 policemen patrolling the Barkal area of Rangamati district were attacked by Shanti Bahini rebels who seriously wounded eight of the policemen, the sources said. The rebels fled when army troops arrived at the scene. Earlier, the sources said at least five policemen were seriously wounded in the clash.

The rebels, mostly drawn from the Chakma tribe, have been waging a 16-year jungle war for autonomy of the rugged region bordering India and Burma, and for the expulsion of Bengali-speaking Moslem settlers from the plains.

The rebels killed a driver of a government speedboat in the same district during the weekend, the sources added.

#### **India**

#### **Pakistani Rejection of Kashmir Government Lauded**

BK2006145690 Delhi Domestic Service in English  
1430 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] New Delhi has expressed satisfaction over Pakistani Government's refusal to give recognition to the so-called provisional government of Kashmir announced by the outlawed JKLF [Jammu, Kashmir Liberation Front] leader, Amanullah Khan. Official sources in New

Delhi said that it is a matter of satisfaction that the Pakistani Foreign Office spokesman has declared the announcement of Amanullah Khan as not valid.

The sources confirmed that India conveyed to Islamabad on Sunday [17 June] that any covert or overt recognition of the so-called provisional government of Kashmir would hamper the process of normalization of India-Pakistan relations. The warning was conveyed by the Indian high commissioner, Mr. J.N. Dixit, during a meeting with the Pakistani foreign secretary, Dr. Tanvir Ahmad Khan, in Islamabad.

#### **Paper Urges Pakistan To Match Indian Gesture**

BK1906114990 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS  
in English 13 Jun 90 p 8

[Editorial: "The Crux in Kashmir"]

[Text] In her interview to the Associated Press, Ms Benazir Bhutto has again sought to sidestep the main issue which has created tension on the Indo-Pak border, namely, Pakistani instigation of terrorist violence in Kashmir. In view of this, the importance she ostensibly attaches to dialogue as a means of normalisation of bilateral ties can be dismissed as an empty ritual. Islamabad, in other words, has failed to match India's gesture in withdrawing armoured units from the Mahajan range near Suratgarh in Rajasthan with a concrete step towards a genuine de-escalation of tension. A significant signal of a retreat from the policy of fomenting terrorism in Kashmir as well as Punjab could have been for Pakistan to hand over the terrorists wanted by India in connection with specific crimes including murder. Among them are Zafarwal and Amanullah Khan. Another one, Lal Singh has been wanted by the FBI in the U.S. By a positive response to the Indian and U.S. pleas for their transfer for legal action, the Pakistan government could have shown an interest in at least gradually reducing its interference in Punjab and Kashmir.

It is not merely the absence of any hint of a policy switch in this regard that has apparently made New Delhi doubtful whether Pakistan will really step back from the brink. Evidence of offensive preparations by the Pakistan army has also mounted. It is in this situation that India has intensified its efforts to check armed infiltrators into Kashmir and Punjab from the Pakistani side, apart, of course, from strengthening the normal defensive positions of the armed forces. For the purpose of effectively sealing the more vulnerable stretches of the border, and for helping the para-military forces in other ways, for instance, two or three of the mountain divisions are known to have been diverted to Punjab and Kashmir.

It is time the Pakistan policy makers fully understood, first, the Indian resolve to quell the Pak-aided terrorist movement. Secondly, they should realise that a dialogue can be expected to produce results only when they do something more than merely paying lip-service to the Simla Agreement. Ms Benazir Bhutto knows better than anyone else in her country that her father, a co-architect

of the accord, regarded that the line of control delineated under it could potentially be an international border. It is primarily because his successors are gambling on seizure of the Kashmir Valley by subversion and force that the present crisis has arisen.

### **Further Reaction to Tamil Fighting**

#### **Government Condemns Killings**

*BK2006151490 Delhi Domestic Service in English  
1430 GMT 20 Jun 90*

[Text] India today unequivocally condemned the brutal assassination of the EPRLF [Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front] leader, Mr. Padmanabha, and others in Madras yesterday. An External Affairs Ministry spokesman told newsmen in New Delhi this evening that the Government of India will not allow such actions to be perpetrated on Indian soil.

Expressing deep concern over the escalation of violence in Sri Lanka during the past few days, he said that India hopes that the problem will be resolved through dialogue. As already reported, New Delhi made an appeal yesterday for an immediate cessation of hostilities and return to negotiations involving all parties concerned in Sri Lanka to achieve a durable peace. The appeal was made after a meeting between the prime minister, Mr. V.P. Singh, and the chief ministers, cabinet ministers, and leaders of National Front allies.

The Tamil Nadu chief minister, Mr. M. Karunanidhi, has said that security arrangements have been geared up in the state in the wake of the gruesome murder of 15 persons by suspected LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] militants in Madras last night. Speaking to newsmen at Madras airport on arrival from Delhi, he said that the government will take necessary steps to protect public property and maintain law and order. Mr. Karunanidhi said that the prime minister, Mr. V.P. Singh, has agreed to his request to strengthen naval and Coast Guard patrolling in the Palk Strait to prevent unauthorized entry of Sri Lankans into Tamil Nadu.

Meanwhile, in Sri Lanka, heavy fighting is still on in two major army camps in Jaffna peninsula where the LTTE militants are continuing constant fire around the fort nearby [as heard] air base. A military spokesman said the government troops aided by Air Force jets are bombing the LTTE targets. The militants are said to be using bulldozers to break into the 200-year-old Dutch-built fort in north Jaffna. However, fighting has subsided in the island's Eastern Province where the government forces have recaptured the towns earlier overrun by the LTTE.

#### **Congress-I Calls Pullout 'Blunder'**

*BK2006163090 Delhi Domestic Service in English  
1530 GMT 20 Jun 90*

[Text] The Congress-I has criticized the National Front government for what it called a historical blunder of

withdrawing the peacekeeping force from Sri Lanka without getting implemented the preconditions about the security of Tamil civilians. Briefing newsmen in New Delhi today, the party spokesman said that the hasty withdrawal has been counterproductive.

Meanwhile, the Congress-I president, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, has written two letters to the prime minister expressing the concern of his party on the situation in Sri Lanka and the safety of the Tamils.

#### **Harboring Tamil Militants Banned**

*BK2006162490 Delhi Domestic Service in English  
1530 GMT 20 Jun 90*

[Text] People providing accommodation and harboring Sri Lankan Tamil militants in Tamil Nadu will face severe action. This was stated in a press release issued in Madras this evening by the director general of police, Mr. Durai. He declared that out of 396 preventive arrests made last night following the killing of 14 EPRLF leaders in Madras, 181 are Sri Lankan Tamil militants belonging to six groups. They were arrested in four districts.

#### **Nagaland 'Coalition Ministry' Sworn In 19 Jun**

*BK1906161590 Delhi Domestic Service in English  
1430 GMT 19 Jun 90*

[Text] In Nagaland, the Joint Legislature Party [JLP]-led coalition ministry headed by Mr. Vamuzo was sworn in this evening. The governor, Dr. M.M. Thomas, administered the oath of office and secrecy to the new chief minister at a simple ceremony held at Raj Bhavan [Governor's House] in Kohima.

Immediately after the ceremony, the new chief minister told our Kohima correspondent that at least 20 ministers are expected to be inducted in his ministry. They will take oath at another ceremony to be held at 1100 tomorrow. He also said that Mr. I.K. Seema of the Congress-I, who was chosen as the deputy leader of the JLP, will be deputy chief minister.

The swearing-in ceremony was attended, among others, by the outgoing chief minister, Mr. K.L. Chisi and a host of MLA's [Members of Legislative Assembly] belonging to both Congress-I and NPC [Nagaland People's Council].

#### **'Powerful' Bomb Injures 12 Policemen in Assam**

*BK1906145190 Delhi Domestic Service in English  
1430 GMT 19 Jun 90*

[Text] In Assam, 12 policemen, including a sub-inspector, were injured when a powerful bomb planted on the road exploded in front of the vehicle on which they were traveling. All the injured persons were immediately rushed to hospital. The condition of some of them is reported to be serious. Police suspect it to be an act of Bodo [tribal] miscreants.

### Seven More Persons Killed in Punjab Violence

BK2006160090 Delhi Domestic Service in English  
1430 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] In Punjab, seven persons, including five terrorists and a senior Congress-I leader, have been killed in separate incidents since last night. According to official sources, a hard-core terrorist, Gurdip Singh alias Dipa, and his one accomplice and an unidentified terrorist were killed in two separate encounters in Faridkot District. The police have also arrested one woman accomplice of Dipa and recovered a large quantity of arms and ammunition, including one AK-47 rifle.

Terrorists gunned down two members of rival gangs in separate incidents in Gurdaspur and Amritsar districts.

Elsewhere in the state, terrorists gunned down a senior Congress-I leader and a former MLA [member of legislative assembly], Mr. Niranjan Singh Shahbazzpuri, in Amritsar District and a police assistant sub-inspector in Bhatinda District. Meanwhile, the security forces have arrested 11 more terrorists in the state.

### 'Terrorists' Clash With Srinagar Police; 5 Killed

BK2106033290 Delhi Domestic Service in English  
0240 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] In Srinagar, five persons were killed and seven injured in cross firing between the terrorists and the security forces at a number of places in the old city areas yesterday. Two security personnel are among the injured. According to an official spokesman, the terrorists attacked the pickets and the patrol party of security forces at eight places. The security forces returned the fire.

The normal curfew relaxation has been withdrawn in the old city areas today in view of the attacks on the security forces. The areas where there will be no curfew relaxation are those under the jurisdiction of the police stations of Safakadal, Khanjar, Maharaj Gund, Nauhata, Rainabara, and Sora. Rest of the areas of the city are having a 12-hour relaxation from 0600 this morning.

In Badharwah Town of Doda District, the situation is near normal now and there is no day curfew since yesterday.

### 16 Die in Kashmir Gun Battles

BK2106095190 Hong Kong AFP in English 0904 GMT  
21 Jun 90

[Text] Jammu, India, June 21 (AFP)—Sixteen people were killed and 40 injured in gunbattles that flared late Wednesday [20 June] between Indian troopers and Moslem militants in the troubled northern Indian state of Kashmir. Simultaneous gunbattles erupted in Srinagar, summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir state, and in two other frontier towns late Wednesday and continued for more than six hours, officials here said. Among those killed were seven paramilitary and Kashmir police

troopers and five suspected Moslem militants in Srinagar, Uri and Kopwara, the last two Indian civilian outposts on the border with Pakistan.

Four civilians also died in the gunbattles, some of which continued through the night, the officials said in Jammu, the turbulent state's comparatively peaceful winter capital. Forty people, including 11 Indian security personnel, were injured in the exchanges of fire, described by government officials here as "unprecedented" in Kashmir, where the Moslem militants have been spearheading a drive for the region's secession.

Kashmir police reported at least 15 incidents of sniping by the militants as well as gunbattles in several districts of Srinagar, the hub of the secessionist campaign, where a marathon curfew imposed in January was not relaxed Thursday [21 June] in an effort to keep a lid on the situation. The officials said the gunbattles started just before the reimposition of curfew late Wednesday, and the gunmen ignored the restrictions to continue attacks on patrolling police and paramilitary troopers from rooftops and winding alleys.

Security forces, backed by women officers, intensified search operations Thursday in militant-dominated areas of Srinagar aimed at seizing arms and arresting wanted secessionist leaders, the officials said without elaborating. New Delhi sent special women paramilitary troopers to the Moslem-dominated Kashmir Valley after allegations that soldiers had raped women and stolen from their homes during raids.

The overnight gunbattles took the death toll to more than 650 so far this year in violence linked to the Moslem campaign in Kashmir, where the movement against Indian rule gained momentum in January.

Thousands of Hindus have migrated from Kashmir, India's only Moslem-majority state, saying they had been harassed and forced to flee by the militants, and that life was impossible under the marathon curfew. Moslem militant organisations deny the harassment allegations and say the migration was triggered by New Delhi in a bid to create confusion and to give their campaign a communal angle.

### Iran

#### Reportage on Tehran Earthquake, Government Reaction

#### IRNA Reports Damage, Death Toll

LD2106064890 Tehran IRNA in English 0630 GMT  
21 Jun 90

[Excerpt] Tehran, June 21, IRNA—[passage omitted] A quake measuring 7.3 on the open-ended Richter scale jolted the provinces of Tehran, Gilan, Mazandaran, East Azerbaijan and Hamadan at 00:31 hours local time (21:01) [GMT 20 Jun] causing many casualties and massive destruction. The epicenter of the quake was in Daylaman [place name as received] between Langarud

and Lahijan in Gilan Province 200 kms northwest of Tehran, 70 kms away from the Caspian sea.

Main roads linking Rasht, provincial capital of Gilan Province in the Caspian region to the major cities are blocked due to mountain slide. The Tehran-Chalus road is cut off near Kandovan, Tehran-Rasht road is cut off near Kouein [place name as received] north west of Qazvin as well as the Rasht-Rudbar road.

According to the latest reports the hardest hit of all are the cities of Lahijan, Langarud, Astaneh Ashrafiyeh, all in Gilan Province, nearest to the epicenter of the quake and also Zanjan.

Death toll in Gilan Province is reported at least 80 dead and 200 injured. In Zanjan at least 50 are reported killed and more than 1,300 injured, with another 150 casualties reported from other cities.

Extensive relief operation has been launched by the Red Crescent and local officials to pull the victims out of the rubbles.

The latest report from Zanjan Province said at least 168 people were killed and 2,000 injured in provincial cities and villages. The highest death toll is reported in Qazvin, Zanjan Province and the surrounding villages. 88 are reported killed in Qazvin and 80 in Zanjan, the provincial capital.

In cities of Ab-Bor, Bouin, Rudbar-e Alamut in Zanjan Province, all houses have been destroyed 100 percent. More than 90 percent of the residents have either been killed or injured.

Power lines and city water supply system in Gilan Province have suffered extensive damage. The local roads and transport and health officials have asked the related ministries in Tehran to dispatch technical and medical teams and aid.

In East Azerbaijan Province the cities of Khalkhal, Ardebil, Myaneh, and Meshginshahr and the villages have been hit by the quake. In Khalkhal 8 people were injured. Damage has been caused to the buildings.

Relief teams are busy rescuing the victims and helping the homeless. As of early Thursday morning 70 ambulances have been sent to Zanjan and Qazvin, said an official from Tehran's governor general office. Many injured have been transferred to Tehran for hospitalization.

Meanwhile 10 helicopters airlifted medicine and medical staff to Rudbar-e Alamut near Qazvin airlifting the injured to Tehran on their way back.

A headquarters has also been set up at the Presidential office in Tehran to coordinate relief operations to the quake-stricken.

In a message to Hojjat ol-Eslam Ehsanbakh, Friday prayers leader of Rasht, capital of Gilan Province, the

leader of the Islamic revolution Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i called on the nation to rush to help victims of the disaster.

Ayatollah Khamene'i also called on the Friday prayer leaders throughout the country to organize relief teams to be dispatched to the quake-stricken areas.

Meanwhile, chief of the Gendarmerie Headquarters General Shirvaniyan announced that all gendarmerie units in Tehran, Gilan and Qazvin were put on full alert. He added that gendarmerie units have already started relief operations in the stricken areas and at dawn on Thursday several helicopters flew to the areas.

Reports from Arak, capital city of the Central Province, said that the Thursday earthquake rocked almost the whole of the province but no loss of life or property was reported.

At 00:32 hours local time on Thursday (21:02 GMT), the strong quake shook the cities of Arak, Saveh, Khomeyn, Sarband, Delijan, Mahallat, Tafresh and Ashtian for over 20 seconds. A minor tremor was also reported in Bakhtaran, west of Iran, but no casualties or damage is reported.

On Thursday morning, Health Minister Dr. Javad Fazel, accompanied by a medical team left Tehran for Gilan Province, the epicenter of the strong earthquake.

The first presidential advisor Hassan Habibi who was scheduled to visit Ilam Province, west of Iran, has postponed his trip.

The quake has also inflicted heavy damages on residential and business areas in the city of Nowshahr, Mazandaran Province along the Caspian Sea. So far, 65 people with minor injuries are reported to have received outpatient treatment in Nowshahr hospitals. Five after-shocks have been felt throughout the night in western part of Mazandaran Province. Telephone lines to Nowshahr are cut off and the city officials have requested heavy machineries from Tehran.

Since the severe quake of September 16, 1978 in Khorasan Province which claimed lives of 25,000, 15,000 alone in the city of Tabas, four more major quakes have struck the same province and the southeastern province of Kerman. On January 16 and November 14, 1979, two quakes hit Khorasan with an overall death toll of 600. Two other quakes hit Kerman Province in June and July 1981 killing a total of 1,428 people.

#### Over 1,000 Die in Zanjan, Gilan

LD2106105490 Tehran IRNA in English 0946 GMT  
21 Jun 90

[Text] Tehran 21 Jan (IRNA)—An official at the geophysics center of Tehran University Thursday said that numerous after-shocks have been registered till 10:30 hours local time (07:00 GMT) since the early Thursday earthquake which rocked a large area in north and northwest of Iran. Head of the center, Abdolrahim

Javaherian, further added that the severest of the after-shocks measured 5.4 degrees on the open-ended Richter scale. He noted that an experts team from the center will be dispatched to the quake-stricken areas Friday to study the after-shocks which will help them determine the reason for the disaster.

Minutes after the earthquake, Tehran's geophysics center announced that at 00:30:38 [as received] hours local time Thursday, an earthquake with an intensity of 7.3 degrees on the Richter scale hit areas 200 kms northwest of Tehran and 400 kms southeast of Tabriz, East Azerbaijan Province. The last devastating earthquake which rocked Tehran 159 years ago had an intensity of 7 degrees on the Richter scale.

Meanwhile, latest reports from Gilan Province said that over 300 bodies have so far been pulled out of the debris in the province with some 1,000 injured being transferred to hospitals.

Rudbar, Lowshan, Daylaman, Masruleh, Rasht and mountainous areas in the province have been most destroyed by the devastating quake. 70 percent of homes, buildings and shops in provincial cities of Manjil, Lushan and Rudbar have been severely damaged. The total population of the three cities is 100,000.

In addition to the high casualties in Gilan Province, many people are reportedly entrapped under the debris and a massive rescue operation is underway to pull them out.

According to the latest report the death toll in Zanjan Province has reached 700 with at least 2,000 others injured.

Rural areas in the province, mainly in Tarom-e Olia, Rudbar-e Alamut and Koein have been damaged seriously. At the moment all the roads leading to the stricken villages have been blocked due to mountain slide and relief operations are carried out by helicopters.

A source at the Interior Ministry termed extent of the damage in the province, especially in the above mentioned areas, as "extensive".

An official in charge of the relief headquarters for Zanjan Province told IRNA that by 12:00 hours local time (08:30 GMT) the death toll in north and northwest of Qazvin reached 100 and 2,000 injured.

Head of the headquarters 'Ali Goo [name as received] added that more than 40 residential quarters in Qazvin have sustained 10 to 100 percent damage.

Relief operation is handled by the Red Crescent helicopters and so far 2,000 tents, 10 tons of rice, 5 tons of vegetable shortening, 5 tons of tea, 5 tons of sugar, and 8,000 pieces of blankets have been airlifted to Qazvin from Tehran, he said.

### Death Toll Updated; New Tremor Reported

LD2106111790 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian  
1030 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Excerpt] The Central News Unit has announced the latest casualty figures for the recent earth tremor in Zanjan Province as at 1245. The figures are as follows: Tarom-e 'Ulya—the centre of which is al-Bar region—1,000 people killed, 3,000 injured; villages around Abhar township, 3 killed, 130 injured; and in the Alamut region of Rudbar township, 602 people have been killed, and 450 have been injured, out of which 46 have been transported to Tehran for treatment.

According to reports, the earth tremor led to no casualties or material loss in the towns of Tehran, Qom, Fuman, Borujerd, Sanandaj, Karaj, Shahriyar, Sarab, Hashtrud, Mianeh, Meshkinshahr, Ardebil, Bakhtaran, Arak, Mahabad, Saveh, and Hamedan.

The traffic police information unit of the Islamic Republic of Iran's gendarmerie announced that the highways in Chalus, Karaj, Qazvin, Rasht and Haraz are closed. Compatriots intending to travel or return from the north of the country should use the Firuzkuh highway. According to the same report, other roads in the country are open, and traffic is moving normally.

Furthermore, according to reports from the Geophysics Institute at Tehran University, at 1232 today another earth tremor, measuring 6.5 on the Richter scale, was registered 200 kilometers northwest of the Geophysics Institute. [passage omitted]

### Relief Fund Established

LD2106083790 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian  
0730 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Excerpts] It has been reported that in an area of 40 villages and total population of some 15,000 in the mountainous area of Gilan Province, 50 villagers have been killed and efforts continue by the relief teams to rescue some 150 people from beneath the ruins. The earthquake also rocked the town of Fuman during the early hours of this morning. A report from the governorate of this town indicates that the number of the dead has reached 24 and 300 wounded. It is necessary to add that in the town of Fuman, most of the damage is reported to have occurred in the Nasir Mohalleh district of Shams.

According to a report from the great leader's bureau, in the wake of this morning's strong earthquake, which caused heavy losses and casualties, His Eminence Aya-tollah Khamene'i, the great leader of the Islamic revolution, ordered that a sum of 1 billion rials be allocated to the task of assisting the victims of this tragic catastrophe. This report indicates that the sum has been placed at the disposal of the relief headquarters of the Islamic Republic of Iran's cabinet by the Oppressed Foundation of the Islamic Revolution. The great leader's bureau has also called upon our country's ever-present on the scene

people to minimize the consequences of this sad tragedy through serious and active participation in providing relief to the earthquake victims and through coordination with the government and the Red Crescent organization of the Islamic Republic. [passage omitted]

It is worth mentioning that as the result of this strong earthquake and the death of a number of our compatriots in the Gilan province, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Ehsanbakhsh, the Friday imam of Rasht and representative of vali-ye faqih [supreme jurisconsult] in Gilan, and Mr. Tabesh, governor general of the province, have announced a day of mourning in Gilan today.

#### **President Condoles Nation**

*LD2106103390 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian  
0930 GMT 21 Jun 90*

["Message" from Iran President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani—read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful. We are from God, and to God we shall return. Noble, resistant, and great nation of Iran. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran expresses its condolences to the presence of the remnant of God [12th imam] and the leader, the bereaved families, and all our patient, mourning people for the sad and heart-rending earthquake which has damaged a substantial part of our dear country and led to the loss of many of our dear compatriots and caused the death and injuries of many more, as well as a lot of damage; and may God grant his forgiveness to the lost ones, patience and strength to those who have survived, and speedy recovery for the injured. And in order to express solidarity and sympathy with those who have suffered losses and damage and to pay respect to those who have died, the government declares three days of public mourning.

We ask you, noble nation, to demonstrate, as in past years which were eras of great tests, your steadfastness and selflessness and to use your resources to assist in the relief of people who have suffered damage in the regions hit by earthquake. Ministries, government organizations, institutions, and companies, and military and security forces assisting the victims of the earthquake are dutybound to be prepared from today until further notice, to carry out their relief duties round the clock. It is hoped that by displaying care and discipline and undertaking activities which are worthy of a great and self-sacrificing people, we may emerge from this test holding our heads high.

[signed] Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, president.

#### **Khamene'i Urges Help for Victims**

*LD2106132390 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian  
1030 GMT 21 Jun 90*

[Text] In the wake of the strong earthquake this morning, which caused heavy losses and casualties in Gilan and Zanjan provinces, the leader of the Islamic revolution,

His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, issued an important message to Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Ehsanbakhsh, the representative of vali-ye faqih [vice regent of the jurisconsult] and the Friday imam of Rasht. The text of the message of the great leader is as follows:

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful. Your Excellency Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Ehsanbakhsh, the esteemed Friday imam of Rasht! We are from God, and we shall return to God. I offer my condolences to his holiness the remnant of God [the hidden imam] and the noble people of the affected areas over the tragedy of the strong earthquake in Gilan and Zanjan provinces and other regions of the country, which has caused heavy material losses, the death of a large number of our compatriots, and the bereavement of many families. Bitter incidents like this are divine tests; and the bereaved and other people should pass this test with pride through their patience, endeavor, cooperation, and assistance; and they should make this test a means of evolving and strengthening themselves spiritually and financially [as heard].

My request from our country's generous people is to rush to assist the victims; and the honorable Friday imams of each region, by setting up relief teams and organizing the active forces, should undertake the task of helping and rebuilding the damaged areas and their people; and in particular, during the early days, they should supply the primary requirements of the victims, especially in rural areas and villages. For this purpose they should cooperate and coordinate with the government and the Red Crescent organization of the Islamic Republic. I beseech Almighty God to grant mercy upon the dead, and patience and strength to the bereaved families.

[Signed] 21 June 1990, Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i.

#### **Perez de Cuellar Invites Iran, Iraq to Talks**

*LD2006210490 Tehran in English to Europe  
1930 GMT 20 Jun 90*

[Text] A senior UN official said that UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has invited the foreign ministers of Iraq and the Islamic Republic of Iran to meet him in Geneva in the first week of July to discuss the [word indistinct] progress in the establishment of the secretary general's peace plan. According to a United Arab Emirates news agency report from the United Nations, the said official added: Perez de Cuellar has decided to dispatch special envoy Jan Eliasson to the region in the event of achieving any progress in the talks. Jan Eliasson, on behalf of Perez de Cuellar sent his invitation to Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz, and Iran's Foreign Minister Dr. Velayati through the representatives of the two countries in the United Nations. The report says it is not yet clear whether the meetings with Perez de Cuellar would be held separately or in the form of direct talks. This will be the sixth round of peace talks under the supervision of the UN secretary general following the 1988 cease-fire in Iraq's war against Iran.

### Velayati Interviewed on Outcome of ECO Meeting

LD2006225890 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian  
2030 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] Our country's Foreign Affairs Minister Velayati, who visited Pakistan at the head of a delegation to take part in the first ministerial meeting of the Economic Cooperation Organization [ECO], arrived back in Tehran on Wednesday evening. Following his arrival in Tehran, in an interview with our correspondent, he explained the outcome of the meeting:

[Begin recording] [Velayati] My visit to Pakistan, together with a delegation accompanying me, took place in order for us to participate in the first meeting of the ministers of Iran, Pakistan and Turkey which was held within the framework of ECO. Regarding the decision taken by the ECO Council of Deputies in Tehran in the month of Ordibehesht [21 April-21 May], the foreign ministers reviewed the proposals made by the ECO deputies and following some amendments those proposals were approved and signed by the three countries' ministers.

On the basis of approval at the meeting, some amendments were made to the Izmir Accord which, God willing, will result in legal proceedings in the three countries and will establish the basis for regional cooperations between the three countries of Iran, Pakistan and Turkey.

In the preliminary meeting of the deputies, the establishment of four committees were proposed; this number of committees, following discussions and proposals by Iran and the other two countries, was increased to seven.

The officials of the three countries of Iran, Pakistan and Turkey will hold discussions on various subjects including ways of implementing decisions taken at the Islamabad meeting.

Regarding the fact that the three countries' regional cooperation within the framework of ECO can help the three countries draw closer, and the fact that those three countries together can strengthen and organize development, economic, and industrial tasks as well as cultural cooperation and efforts toward cooperation in the field of energy, communications and roads, it can be said that the future of this regional cooperation can be assessed as positive and constructive for the three countries and the region.

[Unidentified correspondent] Is there any possibility of the ECO accepting new members? Has there been any discussion in that regard?

[Velayati] This issue was discussed. The possibility exists, but should any country make a request for membership, the request should be discussed and if the three countries agree it will be accepted. Of course this [other countries membership] has been envisaged in the Izmir Accord and, in any case, the door is not closed. [end recording]

[Announcer] Also in the same interview Velayati referred to his meeting with the Peshawar-based Afghan

mujahidin and said: Following the Islamic Republic of Iran's continuous efforts, various groups of the Afghan mujahidin based in Iran were formed into the Islamic Unity Party and they went to Pakistan together with the Iranian delegation to discuss Afghanistan's political future with the Afghan mujahidin based in Peshawar.

The foreign affairs minister added: We hope that Afghan mujahidin based in Iran and in Pakistan, reach a conclusive agreement on Afghanistan's future government so that justice is observed in the political structure of Afghanistan's future and elections are made in a way that the future Afghan government is accepted and supported by the majority of people in that country.

Velayati also said: Many high ranking authorities in charge of the Peshawar-based Afghan mujahidin came to see the Iranian delegation in Pakistan. Some useful discussions were made on the ways that Iran, Pakistan and the Afghan mujahidin can cooperate on Afghanistan's political future.

### Irish MP's Meet Tehran Officials on Hostages

NC1906125390 Paris AFP in English 0932 GMT  
19 Jun 90

(Text) Tehran, June 19 (AFP)—An Irish MP [Member of Parliament] has appealed here for the release of Western and Iranian captives in Lebanon and praised Iran's stand on the hostage question as "reasonable". David Andrews, who was in Tehran on a private visit with two other Irish MPs, also called on the United States and Israel to respond to Iranian overtures on the hostages with reciprocal gestures of goodwill.

Mr. Andrews told the Tehran Times newspaper that he and his delegation had met Deputy Foreign Minister Mahmud Va'ez, the head of the ministry's European section, Hoseyn Musaviyan, and the chairman of the Iranian parliament's foreign affairs committee, Sa'id 'Ali Raja'i Khorasani.

"We have had frank and free discussions on various issues, including the hostages in Lebanon," he said. An Irishman, Brian Keenan, is among 15 Westerners believed held in Lebanon, several of whom are in the hands of pro-Iranian Shiite groups.

"We want all these hostages to be released, including those from Iran," Mr. Andrews told the paper.

Authorities here insist that four Iranians kidnapped by Christian militiamen in Lebanon during the 1982 Israeli invasion are still alive, despite official U.S. reports that they are dead. The United States recently informed Iran of its findings in what it said was a goodwill overture following Iranian assistance in the liberation of two U.S. hostages in West Beirut last April. Following their release, Iran asked for similar progress to be made on its request for the liberation of the four Iranians as well as Moslem and Palestinian prisoners held by Israel.

"Without a doubt, I can say that the Iranian stand on the hostage issue is reasonable and a quick reciprocal response must be given by the United States and Israel," Mr. Andrews said. He told the paper that the Irish delegation, which also included his brother and Euro-EP Niall Andrews and Senator Eoin Ryan, had come to Iran to promote bilateral ties and to help the West understand Islam.

Asked about "The Satanic Verses," a novel by British author Salman Rushdie that has been denounced here as blasphemous to Islam, Mr. Andrews asserted, "We condemn insults to any religion." The novel put Iranian-EEC relations under severe strain last year and triggered a break in Tehran-London diplomatic ties.

The Irish delegation, which also met with the chairman of the parliamentary budget committee, Morteza Alviri, was due to leave Tehran later Tuesday.

#### **Khamene'i Names Kalantari IRC Commander**

*LD2006173690 Tehran IRNA in English 1630 GMT 20 Jun 90*

[Text] Tehran, June 20, IRNA—The leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i today appointed Mokhtar Kalantari as commander of the Islamic Revolution's Committees (IRC). Ayatollah Khamene'i made the appointment upon a request by Interior Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam Abdollah Nuri following the resignation of IRC former commander Hojjat ol-Eslam Serajeddin Musavi.

Kalantari was serving as deputy interior minister for security and disciplinary affairs before his appointment as IRC commander.

The leader of the Islamic Revolution lauding outgoing commander Musavi for his services, reinstated him in his post as his personal representative in this revolutionary organ.

#### **National Front Claims Growing Split in Regime**

*PM1906152690 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 16 Jun 90 p 6*

[Report on interview with Iranian National Front leader Hushang Kurdistani by Sa'id Mabruk in Paris; date not given]

[Excerpts] Opposition Iranian National Front leader Hushang Kurdistani has expressed his appreciation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's eagerness to provide security for pilgrims and to spare them problems and troubles.

In an interview with 'UKAZ Kurdistani condemned the Tehran regime's decision to prevent Iranian pilgrims from performing pilgrimage rites. He said that the Front is strongly opposed to that position and method because they violate the Shari'ah. [passage omitted]

Kurdistani, who lives in exile in Paris, said that the Iranian people have realized that the Tehran regime is a sham and that its survival depends on the backing which it receives from abroad. Therefore the political situation within the regime will cause the people to explode, not only because the regime is weak, but also because there is now an escalating conflict between its two wings—the self-styled moderate wing under Hashemi-Rafsanjani and the fanatical, hard-line wing under Mohtashemi.

He added that the Iranian people now reject both wings because the conflict between them has led the country into an impasse, since no projects have been implemented for 18 months and all the decisions made remain solely on paper.

Kurdistani said that Iranian citizens are now convinced that this situation cannot continue for long. He pointed out that the situation is now intolerable. With the people's increasing discontent inside Iran, it is not impossible that Iran could experience a sweeping people's revolution which will eliminate the mullah regime. [passage omitted]

Kurdistani, who succeeded Sanjabi as leader of the Iranian National Front, added that in order to ensure its survival, the Tehran regime continues to pursue the policy of creating problems and fomenting sedition both inside and outside the country, exploiting every opportunity and occasion, even at the holy places and during the pilgrimage season.

He said that this has given a distorted image of Islam both inside and outside Iran.

Furthermore, Kurdistani criticized the Tehran regime's economic and social policy, which he said has completely destroyed the country's economy. [passage omitted]

#### **Majles Ends Debate on Unified Security Force**

*LD2006112290 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Jun 90*

[Text] With the approval of the deputies of the Islamic Consultative Assembly [Majles], the gendarmerie, the Islamic Revolution Committee, and the police will merge to form a united security force. Our correspondent reports on today's open session of the Majles.

[Correspondent] In this morning's open session of the Majles which was chaired by Mr. Karrubi, the task of attending to the bill for the merger of the gendarmerie, the [Islamic Revolution] Committee, and the Police, and the formation of a united security force, was concluded. In this session the Majles speaker made some remarks in which he referred to 31 Khordad [22 June] as the anniversary of the martyrdom of Dr. Chamran [during Iran-Iraq war], and paid tribute to the services rendered by him to the Islamic revolution and his defense of the Islamic homeland during the imposed war.

The discussion continued on the single-urgency bill on the merger of the Gendarmerie, Committee, and the

police, and formation of a united security force of the Islamic Republic of Iran. After the ratification of some further articles pertaining to it, the task of attending to this bill ended. On the basis of one of the articles approved by the Majles, today, the security organization of the country was named as the Security Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran [Niru-ye Entezami-e Jomhuri-ye Eslami-ye Iran].

#### **Khamene'i Recalls 1981 IRP Bombing, 'Martyrs'**

LD1906145290 Tehran IRNA in English 1356 GMT  
19 Jun 90

[Text] Tehran, June 19, IRNA—The martyrdom of 72 leading figures in the explosion which rocked the headquarters of the former Jomhuri Islami Party [Islamic Republican Party, IRP] on June 28, 1981, revealed the depth of cruelty and hostility of enemies towards the Islamic revolution and the Islamic republic, said the leader here here today.

Ayatollah Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i speaking to organisers of the 7th Tir ceremonies (June 28), said those who claimed to be political dissidents resorted even to terrorism in a bid to seize power in the country.

"The 7th Tir catastrophe did not put out the flames of the revolution, but it helped the revolution to firm up and, and the people to close ranks further," he remarked.

The leader said that after the assassination of martyr Ayatollah Morteza Motahhari on May 2, 1979, officials found out that they were subject to serious threats. However the people stood by the officials in the progress of the Islamic revolution.

The 7th Tir martyrs included the former Chief Justice Ayatollah Mohammad Hoseyni Beheshti and other leading lights of the Islamic revolution.

#### **Expediency Discernment Council Meets 19 Jun**

NC2006051790 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian  
0430 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] The Expediency Discernment Council met last night under the chairmanship of President Hashemi-Rafsanjani. During the meeting, the members of the council discussed and approved up to Article 92 of the labor law.

#### **Commerce Minister on New Import-Export Regulations**

LD1906165590 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian  
1030 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] During a news and radio-television conference this morning, the commerce minister announced the government's new policies on non-oil exports. According to a report from our correspondent about the provision of new facilities for the exporters, Mr. Vahhaji said: Up to now our exporters have been selling the foreign currency they earn from their exports to the banking network, or have

used it to import certain commodities permitted by the government, whereas in view of the government's new policies the exporters can import the goods published in three different lists for the productive units.

He added: On the basis of the three published lists, which are based on the three different rates of foreign currency—that is, the official rate at 70 rials per U.S. dollar, the higher rate at 245 rials, and the competitive rate of 800 rials—the exporters can use their foreign currency earning to import the raw material required by the productive, industrial, and guild units. The goods imported on the basis of the competitive rate list are exempt from price fixing and distribution regulations. However, if the imported goods are in the higher and official rates, they should observe the price fixing and distribution regulations as before. The exporters can also use their earning from the exports to import the raw materials or manufacturing tools for re-exporting their manufactured items.

The commerce minister went on: In the wake of the introduction of the new currency regulations with lower and moderate rates, the previous discount rates are abolished. This decision will not, however, include the cottage industries and the minerals, the rates for which was recently announced by the government.

About the creation of greater facilities for the exporters, the commerce minister said: On the basis of Note 29 from Article 6 of the Budget Bill for 1990 and the allocation of a 300 million dollar fund to assist exporters through the provision of lower foreign currency rates, the Central Bank is duty bound to place foreign currency credit at the disposal of the exporters as one way of supporting them.

About other plans of the ministry to provide better facilities for the exporters, he said: In order to speed up the process of exporting from certain protected areas, the customs office will store and release these goods when the exporters decide; and those who import the raw materials and equipment required by the manufacturers, which are used for eventual export, are exempt from the price investigation and preliminary controls.

In connection with this, Mr. Vahhaji said: Exporters can use the free trade and industrial ports when necessary in order to ease the export of their goods.

#### **Exporters To Use Foreign Exchange for Imports**

LD1906130390 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian  
1030 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Excerpts] The Islamic Republic of Iran's Central Bank announced: In line with the government's policy for encouraging non-oil exports and in accordance with the measure approved by the Economic Council exporters of non-oil goods are allowed from now on to use the foreign exchange yielded by their exports to act, on an individual basis or through other importers, toward importing goods in accordance with regulations.

On the basis of the decision, goods which may be imported using export foreign exchange [foreign exchange gained by exporting], in addition to the 12 items covered by Clause 43 of the administrative regulations of the import-export bill, include the following: Raw materials and goods allowed to be imported using competitive foreign exchange [i.e., goods not liable for government foreign exchange allocations] and parts and machinery needed for production, a list of which will be released by the Commerce Ministry.

The Central Bank also announced: The goods included in the competitive foreign exchange list, which are imported using export foreign exchange, will be exempt from pricing and distribution regulations. [passage omitted]

According to the report, in cases where exporters are not interested in importing goods or in transferring their permitted allowances to someone else, the Central Bank is prepared to purchase export foreign exchange with the payment of rial incentives [as heard].

#### **Imported Goods To Be Transported by Rail**

*LD1906180490 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian  
1630 GMT 19 Jun 90*

[Text] In order to speed up the process of releasing goods from ports in Hormozgan Province, from now on imported goods will be transported at first to Sirjan, and from there they will be carried to other parts of the country by railway. With the implementation of that special scheme, which has begun simultaneously with the operation of the first phase of Bafq to Bandar-e 'Abbas railways, so far 1500 tonnes of goods have been transported daily by rail. This shows an increase of 40 percent in comparison to last year. [as heard]

The director-general of the roads and transport office of Hormozgan Province announced the above news in an interview with the Central News Unit. He added: Moreover, from the beginning of the current year [21 March 1990] till present, more than 871,000 tonnes of goods have been transported from Bandar-e 'Abbas to other parts of the county by 56,000 trucks. In order to attract more trucks, incentives such as trips to Syria, delivery of air conditioning systems, refrigerators, and tires to more active truck drivers have been planned.

#### **Iranian, Soviet Caspian Research Centers Planned**

*LD1706133190 Tehran IRNA in English 1257 GMT  
17 Jun 90*

[Text] Nowshahr (Gilan), June 17, IRNA—An environment protection official said today that the Islamic Republic and the Soviet Union will establish research centres of their own to study Caspian Sea environment aspects. He said in order to prevent pollution of the Caspian Sea the towns and cities along the Iranian side of the sea should be equipped with modern sewage system so that waste water and waste materials will not enter the landlocked Caspian.

He observed also that the task of protecting the Caspian water is the reciprocal duty of Iran and the Soviet Union.

The official said that during the current 5-year development plan which will end in March 1995, environment study centers will be set up in the provinces of Gilan, Mazandaran (both on the southern side of the Caspian sea), as well as Kerman, Bakhtaran, Yazd, Zanjan, Kordestan, Hamedan and Khuzestan.

#### **Commentary on Impetus To Industrial Production**

*NC1106093290 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian  
0430 GMT 11 Jun 90*

[Central News Unit Research Group commentary]

[Excerpts] In the name of God.

The heavy industries minister said in an interview that all the production units engaged in heavy industries will reach maximum capacity by the end of summer.

The present government, which took over the middle of last year, based its economic policy on increased production. This objective is being pursued within the framework of the First Five-Year Plan as its main axis.

For the purpose of increasing production, the government has endeavored to eliminate the bottlenecks. Due to numerous difficulties, including the imposed war and the concomitant reduction in the government's foreign exchange earnings, our industries have functioned at half of their capacity.

The real problem was the lack of raw materials and spare parts for production along with various other difficulties and hindrances. In the year 1367 [21 March 1988-20 March 1989], the factory production fell under the control of heavy industries, was on the average about 26 percent of its maximum capacity. [passage omitted]

With the industrial units operating at maximum capacity, and with the increase in the general supply, the spiraling inflation will be curbed considerably. This step will also be instrumental in helping employment and in raising the gross national product. In order to maximize production capacity of the factories, credit facilities of \$23 billion in all has been envisaged in the Five-Year Plan.

Some of the experts believe that the present foreign exchange policy is a positive one for increasing production but an assessment of the present prices reveals that, compared to the competitive foreign exchange rates, the life of the government prices seems to be at an end, except for commodities which are to be obtained against coupons or other services. In such conditions, some measures should be taken to protect the purchasing power of the lower income groups and salaried groups of society.

Similarly, in order to continue the trend of production at competitive foreign exchange rates, the fluctuation of the foreign exchange rates in the open market should also be kept under control. This is because the increase of

foreign exchange rates on the open market will result in the gradual rise in the price of commodities produced with the foreign exchange obtained at competitive rates, after their distribution, in the market. In practice, this will jeopardize the very objectives of the plan.

The other important point with regard to the new government policy of bolstering production is the manner of the distribution of the new commodities now being produced. Even though, ostensibly, the goods manufactured with foreign exchange obtained at competitive rates will be exempt from the system of price fixing and distribution, in view of the high rate of liquidity in society, the possibility of the entry of the new batch of goods on the open market and evolution of new prices for these goods remains.

The new production policy will reach its desired objective only if production continues with the foreign exchange obtained at competitive prices without any break. For this purpose, attempts should be made to resolve the problems of the industrial units, and to increase their production capacity in proportion to the gradual rise in demand.

**\*ABRAR Report on 9 May 90 Majles Session**

90AS0083A Tehran ABRAR in Persian  
9 May 90 pp 3, 2

[Excerpt] ABRAR domestic news:

**In Yesterday's Public Session, Majles Recognized Jerusalem as the Capital of the Palestinian Government in Exile**

**In a letter to His Holiness Ayatollah Khamene'i, the Majles representatives declared their support for the [spiritual] leader in continuation of the combat with the criminal United States of America.**

In a letter to the Leader of the revolution, the Majles representatives stated their support for his recent firm position and emphasized their obedience to his rule as vali-ye amr-e Moslemin [guardian of the cause of the Muslims] and declared: "We are behind your excellency with all our power for the strengthening of the Islamic revolution and the ideals and line of our departed Imam."

Following are the contents of that letter as read in yesterday's public session:

In the name of God

To the honorable Leader, His Holiness Ayatollah Khamene'i, may your blessings perpetuate

Greetings be upon you. Praise be to God for the fresh strength He once again bestowed upon the possessors of belief in the pure Islam of Mohammad (may God bless him and grant him salvation) and for causing the hopes of the omnipresent self-aggrandizer [the United States] and its agents to be collapsed through the reverberations of the resolute voice of your holiness. Like the period of

his holiness the imam (the blessings of God be upon him), the United States was so severely slapped in the face that its impact can be seen in the commotion among the liberals, corrupt factions, reactionaries, Godless capitalists, and in short, among those in the [camp of] Americanized Islam. The world-devouring United States of America and its agents were so amazed and perplexed by the imam-like action of your holiness that they look like they have been sledgehammered to death. They were waiting impatiently for the departure of imam so that they could turn the course of the revolution, the values of pure Islam of Mohammad (may God bless him and grant him salvation), and the line of the great leader of the revolution by 180 degrees. We Majles representatives support the heroic position of that honorable leader against the United States-led enemies of the Islamic revolution, and declare that we are behind Your Excellency with all our power for the strengthening of the Islamic revolution and the ideals and line of our departed imam.

May God assist and confirm you

**Parliamentary Service**

Yesterday morning the Majles convened a session under the chairmanship of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Karubi. Consideration of legislation regarding support for the Islamic revolution of Palestine continued in this session. One of the articles of this legislation declares Jerusalem to be the native land and center for the Islamic government of Palestine in exile. In yesterday's public session which began after the break, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemyan, the deputy Speaker, chaired the meeting and the continuation of deliberation on the report by committee on internal affairs and councils was included in the agenda.

In this session, the representatives from Najafabad, Dageghan, Zanzan, Marand, Babolsar, and Band-e Pey spoke as pre-agenda speakers.

The detailed proceedings of yesterday's public session are as follows:

**Speeches of the Pre-Agenda Speakers**

**The Najafabad Representative's Speech**

As the first pre-agenda speaker, Hasan Mokhtari, the representative of the people of Najafabad in the Majles, thanked the security and judicial authorities of Najafabad who, with meager resources available to them, work hard to insure the security and welfare of martyr-loving people of Najafabad. He thanked His Holiness Ayatollah Yazdi who sincerely tries to improve the judicial situation in the country and asked him to attend to the judicial problems of Najafabad without any further delay as promised by him during their personal meeting.

### The Dameghan Representative's Speech

Hasan Bigi, the representative of the people of Dameghan, was the second pre-agenda speaker. He referred to some of the sublime words of the departed leader of the revolution, His Holiness Imam Khomeyni (blessings be upon him), and said: I find it necessary that during these days we should be attentive to the opinions and thoughts of Imam Khomeyni (blessings be upon him).

He added: One of the important requirements of a period of reconstruction is to utilize constructive and probing ideas. In an active society, sympathetic critics play the important role of trusted advisers to the authorities of the regime. Among the very important requirements is attention by the authorities to views of the enlightened thinkers, constructive criticism, observance of Islamic courtesy and politeness in clash of opinions, avoidance of slander and accusation in expressing one's opinion, and prevention of revenge not criticism. The mass media's role is very important in conveying this message to the society.

He added: Those who work in the mass media should try to provide opportunities in the above context. If the Hezbollahi forces, and the religious and sympathetic people are not given the opportunity and their sympathetic criticism is not kindly received, then deceptive flatterers find grounds to act and rise to positions of authority. Obviously the consequences of such development is burdensome for the regime.

In another part of his speech he referred to the sacrifices and the bravery of the Hezbollahi combatants in the battlefield and condemned the accusations and slanders against them which are current these days. He said: Deceptive flatterers are trying to fill responsible positions and have been successful in some cases.

He continued: We all must learn from the imam's teachings and observe his counsels and do not forget our roots.

In conclusion, he reminded the Ministry of Education and Training about the university of Dameghan and said: The people of Dameghan, through their loftiness of purpose, established a university in the year 1362 [21 March 1983-20 March 1984] but progress has been slow due to some difficulties and a shortage of resources. We request help and assistance in this regard.

Considering the climate, water availability, and suitable conditions for agriculture, I remind the Ministry of Agriculture of the problems in the region and the visit more than 17 months ago by the ministry's deputy for research to Dameghan when arrangement were made for the establishment of a pistachio research station to help and guide farmers and gardeners. Unfortunately, nothing practical has been done in this regard yet.

I thank the honorable minister of energy, the Majles, the honorable Energy Commission, and the Plan and Budget Committee for including the construction of Dameghan

dam in the plan for 1369 [21 March 1990-20 March 1991] and ask the action in this regard to be expedited. [passage omitted]

### The Babolsar Representative's Speech

Mohammad Majd-Ara, the representative of the people of Babolsar and Band-e Pey, was the next speaker. He spoke about the water-supply problem in Mazandaran and pointed out that this problem has caused irreparable damage. In this regard, he explained: In the design of Lar dam, to insure the rights of Mazandaran province for water, which is the lifeblood of the dear farmers there, a special outlet gate for water flow was installed 11 meters below all other outlets so that before any other discharge of water, the agricultural water for the region is supplied. In other words, if there was no dam installed, water from the Haraz River and its tributaries would have definitely flown into the areas of Mazandaran. Unfortunately, what is taking place this year, which has caused loss to the dear farmers, is that the farmers' indisputable and undeniable rights are not given to them. According to the existing statistics of previous years, from 19 April to 9 May respectively 10, 20, 30, and 40 cubic meters of water per second was allocated to the farmers of Mazandaran. But unfortunately from 19 April to 9 May of the current year, only 15 cubic meters of water per second, which is half of what is supposed to be allocated, has been supplied.

He reminded that if within the next few days 40 cubic meters of water per second is not allocated from the Lar dam to the farmers, almost 150,000 tons of rice will be lost and 150,000 farmers, who have no other income except from rice cultivation, will suffer a loss. We are supposed to increase the rice production to 2.05 million tons during the Five-Year Plan, but with the current situation we would not be able to do so, and the government would lose 50 million dollars in foreign exchange.

The representative from Babolsar and Band-e Pey asked the President to issue urgent orders to the minister of energy to solve the severe shortage of water by opening the water outlet gate at Lar dam and gladden the hearts of 150,000 farmers.

### The Marand Representative's Speech

The last speaker in today's Majles session was Karim Shafe'i, the representative of the people of Marand. He praised the founder of the Islamic Republic, His Holiness Imam Khomeyni (blessings be upon him), and said: imam was the reviver of the pure Islam of Mohammad (may God bless him and grant him salvation), the Islam of the poor, the Islam of holy struggle and martyrdom, and the Islam of politics and government during Ghaybat [period of hiding of the 12th imam]. After the passage of 14 centuries, holding a sword in one hand and the Koran in the other, and relying on the inviolable principle of absolute velayat-e faqih [rule of the supreme jurisconsult], he brought up the forgotten theories buried

in books, the Sunna [the sayings and doings of Mohammad], and the Sira [the biography of Mohammad]. Once again, after the Ashura [the 10th day of Moharram: the martyrdom day of Imam Hoseyn, the grandson of Mohammad] revolution, the beauty of victory of blood over sword was put to demonstration. But in the mind of the imam, the government was only an instrument. The goal is to unfurl the standard of oneness [of God]. The goal is to bring down atheism and defeat idol worshipers, wealth-seekers, and the powerful. The goal is to vindicate the rights of the oppressed and the poor. Therefore, high and low in the Majles and government must observe this holy ideal of imam in their thoughts and actions, and never sacrifice the goal for the sake of government.

The representative from Marand invited the attention of the government to the importance of production, distribution, and policy making, and to the destructive role of middlemen and brokers, and also to the irresponsible interviews given by some authorities. He said: Improvement in the current system of distribution is no less important than increase in production, which is indeed receiving attention from the government. Without improvement in distribution, an increase in production and imports would not help drop the prices.

He called improvement in the system of distribution without planning and supervision impossible and gave the cause for the rise in the prices of many commodities as improper distribution and added: There is no supervision over distribution in various levels and the authorities are at a loss to understand this.

He continued: Thousands of tons of construction iron-ware, and thousands of items used in houses and offices, and consumer products change hands between middlemen and brokers. Where these items come from and where they go is not clear. The government is in charge of iron poles, rods, sheet iron, and items used in houses, but we need to investigate and find out what percentage of the buyers purchase directly from the government. He then referred to a recent interview with the governor-general of Khorasan Province about a decision by the National Security Council regarding the placement of Afghan refugees and asked the president to deliberate further on this matter.

He further said: The rational solution is to control the eastern borders and, when revolutionaries from Afghanistan are in Iran, it should be only for training in the border areas. An Afghan revolutionary has nothing to do in Tehran, Mashhad, Tabriz, and Esfahan. Battle, fighting, holy war, and martyrdom for Afghan revolutionaries should take place in their country, not in the factories, workshops, and construction projects in this country.

In conclusion, Shafe'i referred to recent difficulties in border exchanges and travel for Iranian citizens in Azerbaijan and Azerbaijanis from Soviet Union in the context of the assistance provided by the authorities of our country.

#### The Agenda of the Meeting

After the pre-agenda speeches, the reminders from the representative's addressed to the authorities of the executive branch of the government were read by the Majles speaker. Then, deliberations on legislation to support the Islamic revolution in Palestine continued. The extra urgency status of this legislation had been approved in the Saturday 5 May 1990 session and three articles of legislation were approved during the last meeting (Tuesday 7 May 1990) in the presence of members of Council of Guardians. After a discussion on the recommendations and the statements of those for and against the proposals, five more articles were approved.

The approved articles are as follows:

Article 4: The Ministries of Education and Training as well as Health, Treatment, and Medical Education are charged to allocate quotas for Palestinian volunteers to study at universities in the country.

Article 5: A committee will be established under the supervision of the president or his representative for execution and follow-up purposes. This committee will be composed of fully authorized representatives from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Islamic Culture and Guidance, Information, the Foundation of Martyrs of the Islamic Revolution, the Foundation for the Self-Sacrificing Devotees [formerly Foundation of the Oppressed], Helal-e Ahmar [Islamic Red Cross], the commander-in-chief of the Revolutionary Guard, and two representatives elected by the Majles. This committee will report once every six months to the Majles on the work performed.

Article 6: In their foreign programs, the Ministry of Islamic Culture and Guidance, and radio and television organization, are charged to give priority to the support for the Islamic revolution of Palestine.

Article 7: The Islamic republic of Iran recognizes Jerusalem as the native land and center of the Islamic government of Palestine in exile. This is based on historical background, and all Islamic countries are asked to recognize that city as the center of the Islamic government of Palestine.

Article 8: Every type of economic, commercial, and educational ties with companies, institutions, and organizations connected with Zionism are forbidden worldwide. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is charged with the responsibility of making a list within a year, as accurate as possible, of all Zionist companies, institutions, and organizations worldwide and present the list to the Majles and the cabinet.

After approval of the legislation, the Majles adjourned for a break until 11:05. The Majles reconvened under the chairmanship of Mr. Hashemian, the deputy speaker, and the report of the Committee on Councils and Internal Affairs about the amendment to the Organization of Islamic Councils law in the country was discussed. Three articles of this amendment had been

approved in the previous session, and after deliberations on the recommendations and statements by those in favor and those against, five more articles were approved by the representatives. According to Paragraph 7 and Note 4 of this plan, mayors are recommended by the interior minister for four-year terms, and the same mayor may be reappointed for one more term in the same city. According to Paragraph 8, the appointment and removal of the mayors of Tehran and the provincial capitals will be recommended by the city councils and authorized by the interior minister.

According to our reporter, in this session, the representatives sent a letter to the [spiritual] leader of the revolution and declared their appreciation and support for his recent position regarding the United States of America.

The same report indicates that a letter signed by 145 representatives, addressed to the Hezbollahi nation, was read in this session. Yesterday's public session ended at 12:10 and the next public session was scheduled for Sunday of the following week.

#### **\*Majles Commission Debates Security Forces Merger**

90AS0107A Tehran RESALAT in Persian  
26 May 90 pp 5, 11

[Text] Legal Section and Majles—Since the middle of last year there has been serious talk of combining the security forces (the Komitehs, the police departments, and the Gendarmerie) to form a single force. Finally the Unified Security Forces Bill was approved by the Council of Ministers at its meeting of 9 October 1989 and submitted as a single-priority motion to the Majles on 19 November 1989. This bill's priority rating was approved by the Majles on 20 November 1989. Then the Unified Security Forces Bill was presented to the joint commissions of the National Domestic Affairs and the Defense Affairs and was approved with amendments at the final session on 13 May 1990. It is now on the weekly program of the Majles agenda. What you are about to read is an interview with several deputies who are members of the joint Majles commission and the chief jurisconsult's representative for the Gendarmerie. It must be noted that our repeated attempts to obtain the views of the Ministry of the Interior, the Komitech and the police department have not been successful so far.

#### **Majles Defense Commission Member Gives Views**

Mr. Purhoseyni, Tabriz deputy and Majles Defense Commission Member, said concerning the submission of the Unified Security Forces Bill:

As is stated in the government's introduction to the bill submitted to the Majles, the motivation for this bill's submission was the necessity for a unified forces command, and this matter brought to the attention of the bill's drafters the need to consolidate the selection, training and employment of the forces.

On the other hand, it is noted that the areas of authority of the police and the gendarmerie are the cities and border areas respectively, with no overlapping areas, and, due to their mission, the Komitech forces also have little in common with the police and the gendarmerie.

However, what makes the merger of the security forces a necessary and inevitable matter is that the forces have not had a unified command and this matter has caused problems. Thus, it is necessary that there be a special flow of command through the security forces, and the personnel of these forces must have uniform regulations for employment, training, and management, and this is the reason why the bill was submitted.

He discussed the way the bill which was submitted to the government was reviewed. He said:

The joint commission is composed of the Councils' commission, the Domestic Affairs Commission and the Defense Affairs Commission. After months of deliberation, it has made changes in the implementation procedure for the Unified Security Forces Bill, including giving priority to consolidation in the police staff forces, observance of the law in the ranks, the division of police missions between police forces and other organizations, especially the revolutionary guards, and the need after the merger to observe the new Armed Forces Law and the laws pertaining to armed forces wages and benefits, with respect to the police and gendarmerie forces.

According to the commission's final report, no more than six months after the bill is passed, the government will merge all existing security forces, such as the police force, the Gendarmerie and the Komitech, and it will form a unified staff called the Islamic Republic of Iran Security Forces Staff.

This force is an armed organization under the Central Armed Forces Command attached to the Ministry of Interior, and on this basis, the commander of this force will be designated by order of the Central Armed Forces Command. Likewise, provisions and arrangements have been made in this bill to prevent overlap between the duties of the Ministry of the Intelligence and the sacred revolutionary guard organization and those of the new security forces. The Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces Logistics will fulfill its responsibilities with the new security forces just as it formerly did with the police forces. The Ministry of the Interior will be responsible for procuring and organizing the budget for this force.

To unify the brave and loyal personnel of the Islamic Revolutionary Komitehs with the police and Gendarmerie forces, who have an employment law and legal military ranks, in this report, a deadline was set for three months after the law's enactment, a bill would be written and will be submitted to the Majles.

As provided in the commission report, if the Majles approves the bill, the Ministry of the Interior will have until the end of the month of Azar this year [21

December 1990] to form a new security forces' command staff at all centers, provincial capitals, cities and locations that have more than one police force, and the rank and file of these police forces will be commanded by these staffs, and the Unified Security Forces Bill will include all police forces.

Of course, three months prior to this date the government must present an employment bill to the Majles for the Islamic Revolutionary Komitehs, and we hope this bill will be presented to the Majles before implementation of the Unified Security Forces Bill, and that the sincere personnel of the Islamic Revolutionary Komiteh, having a clear employment law, will be ready for merger with the other security forces.

In this event, with the creation of a unified forces command, we hope the power of the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to deal with insurgents, smugglers, and those who undermine the nation's security will be greater, and that these insurgents will be denied protection. We hope, with the proper and careful implementation of this law, the believing partisans of God in the security forces will be in the forefront of affairs and that they will make greater efforts than before to promote the culture of the Islamic revolution. We hope that the newly-hired police forces, in view of the need for unified training and admission, will join with society's believing and Hezbollah forces.

#### Commission Member's Views

Mr. Karim Shafe'i, Marand deputy and member of the Majles commission, discussed the history of the formation of the security forces. He said:

If we examine the situation of the security forces before the revolution, they consisted of an urban force known as the police and a rural force known as the gendarmerie which operated in the cities and border areas. In view of the need to establish the revolutionary guard forces, which in addition to maintaining security, carrying out revolutionary activities against the idolaters, guarding locations and individuals, also had the responsibility for managing intelligence, fingerprinting, military conscription affairs and similar matters, the revolutionary guards of the Komiteh became an arm of the revolution charged with preserving and guarding the gains of the revolution, and fighting the counterrevolution and those affiliated with the monarchy and the idolaters.

Therefore, after the revolution we had three main security forces, the police, the Komitehs and the gendarmerie. The existence of three forces, especially in the urban centers, meant that first there would be an overlap of responsibilities in some cases and second that they would need more personnel, command staffs, staff centers, and ultimately costly.

Currently, in view of the decisive defeat of the counterrevolution and likewise the acceptable reform of the personnel mix of the police and the gendarmerie, and also in view of the need to reduce general costs and the

need for the solidarity of forces in the domestic and foreign public mind, officials have concluded that a single force should be formed with a unified command to perform security duties.

He discussed the harm that would be caused by not merging the security forces. He said: Non-unified forces would create the following problems:

1 - Overlap of responsibilities, much of which has occurred, where both the police and the Komiteh would carry out the same urban mission, and in some cases one would assign the responsibility to the other, and in such cases the mission was dropped.

2 - Lack of coordination in the border and other areas. For example, according to the law, the gendarmerie is responsible for protecting and guarding the nation's borders and on the other hand the Komiteh is responsible for antinarcotics activities. Yet there is no narcotics cultivation and production of narcotics within the country. Narcotics mostly come into the country through its eastern borders, and the Komiteh thinks it needs a physical presence at the border to prevent narcotics from entering, so it will not have to collect the narcotics gram by gram within the country, and the problems that will arise in this process are obvious.

3 - The question of public security arises here, and with regard to this issue in the past decade we have clearly seen the overlap of responsibilities between the police and the Komiteh in crime prevention, the preparation of files on crimes, investigation and research, the arrest of defendants, the formation of dossiers and their submission to the courts and other similar matters.

4 - On the one hand, the police are one of the nation's security arms, and on the other hand it is the responsibility of the Komiteh to fight the counterrevolution. The question that arises is, what is the responsibility of the police if a counterrevolutionary act takes place, if there is no Komiteh force in that area? Is the police force responsible or not?

It has been observed that in such cases the police failed to act because of the law's lack of clarity. Thus, with the merger of forces, all personnel will feel the same responsibility in dealing with such incidents.

He then gave other reasons why the merger is necessary. He said: Another important point is the matter of the cost of operating the forces. With three different forces, in Tehran as the nation's center and at the provincial, municipal and district centers all three forces must have three command staffs and at least three buildings with such resources as vehicles, offices, logistics personnel, etc. With the merger of the three forces we will cut costs at least in half in all these departments.

There is also the important matter of planning in this connection. The security forces in every nation must have short-, medium- and long-range plans to better perform their responsibilities and missions, and with

three forces we have three separate plans and three separate ideas. If we want to deal practically and logically with our social problems, we certainly must have unified planning in this area as well.

Continuing, Mr. Shafe'i discussed the role of the Islamic Revolutionary Komitehs in the formation of the new security forces. He said:

The Majles deputies perhaps unanimously agree that the Islamic Revolutionary Komiteh is owed a great debt by the revolution. For this reason, efforts are being made to provide in full for the material and spiritual rights of this force. However, the question the revolutionary guards of the Komiteh might ask is that although some of them are not highly educated, they have shown their worthiness, competence, bravery and sacrifices many times, so how are they to be ranked? It is my view that we should rank the Komiteh forces in the future not on the basis of education but on the basis of their presence at the fronts, years of service and command, level of sacrifice and loyalty and even the number of times they have taken part in domestic operations.

Accordingly, for example the Komiteh commander of a city, though he may not be highly educated, might be able to exercise command as a colonel or a major. Therefore, the material and spiritual rights of these forces will be taken into consideration.

In conclusion he said:

Of course, the bill does not make special provisions for the other forces we are considering. Unfortunately the nation's security forces are not restricted to these three forces. For example, the traffic police, the mayor's police, the airport police, the railroad police, customs security, the forest police and others are examples of police forces that certainly must be considered in the merger bill so we will see unified police forces in the true sense.

#### **View of Chief Jurisconsult's Gendarmerie Representative**

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Ashtiyani, the chief jurisconsult's gendarmerie representative, said this about the Unified Security Forces Bill:

The respected president of the republic, the respected minister of the interior and the Council of Ministers are in agreement regarding the proposal to merge the security forces. Initially, I felt that the security forces should remain the same as before, because the names of the police, Komiteh and gendarmerie forces are mentioned in the will of his holiness the imam (God's greetings upon him), and he warns the nation that each of these forces has its special qualities and that we must support and protect them. Therefore, it may be going against the opinion of his holiness the imam and that these forces should remain as they are. Likewise from the point of view of the Constitution, since the gendarmerie and the police are mentioned, evidently their merger could be unconstitutional, but with respect to the interest of the

government and the nation, the government of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Mr. Hashemi Rafsanjani has concluded that the consolidation proposal is a necessity.

Mr. Ashtiyani then added: In my view, there should be no rush to pass this bill, and therefore we must consider all aspects of the question, and ask ourselves if a merger is actually possible or not. The gendarmerie has its own special guidelines, likewise the police, the Islamic Revolutionary Komitehs are a new revolutionary organization, and have their own special duties and guidelines. If merger simply means we change the name and make the uniforms the same color, this is not a merger. Merger will happen when everything is combined to become one, and this is not practical now. As for the talk about a unified command, there is already a unified command in the hand of His Holiness Ayatollah Khamene'i, the commander-in-chief, and he has delegated this authority to the respected Minister of the Interior. Therefore, we want the respected Majles deputies not to hurry and act in such a way that the enemies of the revolution will make negative propaganda against these forces, as well as create a climate of despair in the police forces. The Islamic Revolutionary Komitehs, for example, are made up of self-sacrificing young men, and we are in dire need of such forces in the government. They must not be eliminated, and the imam stressed that the Komitehs must remain, but if you look at this proposal, you will see that the Komitehs, with their 16,000 people, cannot work against 120,000 gendarmes and police officers.

The chief jurisconsult's gendarmerie representative explained that the duties of the three security forces (the Komitehs, the police, and the gendarmerie) must be specified. He said: Resolution 598 has not yet reached the stage that we may be sure whether the war has ended or not. We do not want to be dependent on East or West. The Islamic revolution wants to stand on its own, and if we want the Islamic revolution and the imam's legacy to remain, we need the security forces, which are its military foundation, to remain in place and be able to stand against imperialism and its agents, and likewise we need the security forces to carry out their duties well.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Ashtiyani discussed the valued activities of the gendarmeries in the activities of the revolution. He said: I have no special prejudice concerning the gendarmerie, but the way this organization is set up, and I have served these dear ones for eight years, it is a force that has truly given valuable service at the borders and in the rural areas. The gendarmerie passed its test well during the imposed war and we have now given many martyrs to the Islamic revolution. Concerning this matter His Holiness Ayatollah Khamene'i said: The martyrs of the gendarmerie shine like stars.

Therefore, the gendarmerie has pleased the exalted leader and all the officials. One point I must explain is that the government of Engineer Musavi, which was a toiling government and a government validated by his holiness the imam (may God be pleased with him), concluded that the gendarmerie should remain as it is

and that the police and the Komitehs should be merged, because the gendarmerie is a rural force and the Komitehs and the police are an urban force. In a meeting I had with Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, he said we need a rural force and an urban force. My view is that we ought to define the limits and responsibilities for a force that is in the rural areas so the forces will not interfere in one another's work.

In conclusion, he also said: I call upon all the deputies and the respected speaker of the Majles to examine and evaluate the proposal in such a way that it will be in the interest of the nation and the revolution. Just as our great leader said, this is a most sensitive and delicate task. However, if this proposal is enacted, we will have to adhere to it and the views of the Majles, the respected Council of Guardians and the government are legal proof for us.

#### **Majles Defense Commission Member's Views**

Mr. 'Azimi Toroqdari, Torqebah and Chenaran deputy and member of the Majles Defense Commission said:

Smooth operation and coordination of affairs pertaining to security and preservation of the government, while eliminating parallel and duplicative organizations to establish security is the overall goal of the Unified Security Forces Bill, and if we can achieve this goal which has been set forth, we will have an effective security force in our society. Currently, in addition to existing police forces, which are evident, we have various guards, security forces and police forces, and we have various police systems in the country, and these forces, despite the fact that their goal is to provide security and protect the government, due to their lack of unity and coordination, do not have a positive and effective impact.

Funds are used from the public treasury, efforts are wasted, and the best use is not made of the funds or the forces. In many cases they interfere with each other, and this leads to friction and neglect of responsibility.

This means that the security factor, instead of improving, declines, and accordingly the consolidation of police forces, along with the goal of smooth and coordinated operations and the creation of a suitable structure for government policy, appear necessary.

Continuing, he enumerated the positive effects of the security forces merger. He said:

One of the bill's positive points is the proper and simultaneous use of existing forces and talents. For every 1,000 individuals, four policemen are needed. This conclusion was reached as a result of expert work and comprehensive study. We studied the nation's various conditions and positions and concluded that to provide security and to protect the government, for every 1,000 people there is need for four policemen. However, presently we have many more policemen than this, but because of the lack of proper utilization of these forces, the existence of many forces, and their interference with one another, even though these forces have a common

goal, it can be seen that in some cases security is not provided in the way that it could and should be. That is, when we study the situation and take into consideration the natural level of security, we see that we are faced with a problem of order and security. If we are to make timely use of the forces, resources and talents, the security factor must go up, costs must go down, and duplications must be eliminated.

Among this bill's other positive features is the matter of a unified command and organization, and as a result of a unified command and organization, police operations, which have a common goal, are under a single command and measures are carried out by a single organization. This can alleviate many existing problems, such as a lack of coordination. Other positive points in this bill can be listed as follows:

- 1 - Proper utilization of existing specialties in the security forces.
- 2 - Centralized intelligence and proper utilization of the intelligence sources.
- 3 - Centralized training.
- 4 - Just division of resources.
- 5 - Improved quality and procedures to establish order and security.

Of course, we have other positive points, all of which cannot be discussed and explained, but if these instances are examined, there are points which could be examined and perhaps eliminated.

Mr. 'Azimi also added: Efforts were made, so far as possible, to designate the duties the new security force will have in common with the revolutionary guards and the Ministry of Intelligence so there will be no overlap in duties among these forces, so that a single specific security force can operate and strive to preserve order and provide security in society.

#### **\*Judicial Organization Plan Presented to Majles**

90AS00940 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 26 Apr 90 p 2

[Text] KEYHAN Political Service: The open session of the Majles was held yesterday morning under the chairmanship of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Mehdi Karrubi.

During this session, elections were held for representatives on the Plan and Budget and Defense Commissions, for purchases of major foreign defense items; and the Foreign Exchange Allocation Committee, for supervision of activities of the Purchasing Council; membership of the High Council of Guardianship, for determination of the Consumption Model and the exact determination of the government's shares in public companies and belongings of the government.

The following is the report of the continuation of yesterday's Majles agenda:

At the conclusion of yesterday's session, elections were held for the following: two deputies from the Plan and Budget Commission for purchases of major defense

items from abroad; two deputies of the Majles to serve as observers in sessions of the Foreign Exchange Allocation Committee; two deputies of the Majles to supervise the activities of the Purchasing Council; two deputies for membership in the High Council for Study and Determination of Consumption Models; two deputies for membership in the Management Development for determination of the government's shares and belongings in public sector companies; and two deputies to act as observers in the Credit Allocation Committee. Votes were taken by ballot and the results will be announced in the next session of the Majles.

The open session of the Majles ended at 11:40 [AM] and the next session was scheduled for Tuesday morning. Our parliamentary correspondent reported that in yesterday's session the presentation of two plans were announced as follows:

The legal plan for creation of the Islamic Justice Implementation Organization and the plan for fixing the price of agricultural water.

The full text of the legal plan for creation of the Islamic Justice Implementation Organization is as follows:

The honorable speaker of the Majles, Excellency Hojjat ol-Eslam Mr. Karrubi:

Respectfully, in view of the following reasons, the legal plan for creation of the Islamic Justice Implementation Organization and integration of the Judicial Police Organization and the Organization of Prisons, Security, and Education Operations is being presented to the Majles:

- (1) Present discussions in the Majles on the bill regarding the integration of the security forces and the need for uniformity of all law enforcement organizations such as the Judicial Police and the security forces of the Prisons Organization.
- (2) Similarity and closeness of many duties of the Judicial Police and Prisons Organization which, in general, concerns the implementation of decrees or security and training activities.
- (3) Timely and correct implementation of decrees issued by judicial sources.
- (4) Coordination among units [tasked] with implementing prison decrees and the Judicial Police.
- (5) Preparation for the creation of a centralized National Criminal Registry.
- (6) Preparation for creation of the Office for Implementation of Decrees and security and training activities in various city regions by utilizing the existing capabilities of the two organizations.
- (7) Saving in current expenses and prevention of unruly expansion of parallel organizations. (The legal plan for creation of the Islamic Justice Implementation Organization and dissolution of the Judicial Police Organization and the National Organization of Prisons, Security, and Education.)

Article 1: From the time of the passing of this law up to a maximum of six months, the Judicial Police Organization and the Organization of Prisons, Security, and

Education Operations shall be dissolved and an organization under the title of the Islamic Justice Implementation Organization, which in this law shall be referred to as "the Organization," shall be established.

Note 1: The Organization shall function under the supervision of the interior minister and its administrator, which will also be the deputy minister, shall be selected by the interior minister for a period of four years.

Note 2: All legal duties and authorities of the two aforementioned organizations, along with their personnel and real or personal properties and credits allocated to them, shall be transferred to this organization, and the length of service of judges in this organization shall be considered as a part of their judicial service tenure.

Note 3: The Cooperative and Industrial Institution of Prisoners and Prisoners' Advocacy Organizations will be attached to and under the supervision of the Organization.

Article 2: Suitable organization and legal duties and authorities shall be prepared by the interior minister and the chief of the National Administration and Employment Agency and shall be approved by the Council of Ministers.

Note: Eventually and in accordance with financial and human resources capabilities, the Organization will establish appropriate units in cities where the need exists.

Article 3: All personnel of the Judicial Police and those of the Organization of Prisons whose service is in connection with law enforcement, guard duties, and management of prisons, detention facilities, and their attached centers will be subject to the laws and regulations concerning the national law-enforcement forces.

Note 1: The method of employment correlation and organizational classification of such individuals with the laws and regulations of the law-enforcement forces shall be a charter that will be determined by the interior minister and shall be passed by the Council of Ministers.

Note 2: The interior minister is duty-bound to select consciences, capable, and knowledgeable individuals from among the personnel of the Organization and, after special training, utilize them to fulfill the responsibilities of the Organization.

Article 4: All laws and regulations contradictory to this law shall be null and void.

Article 5: The charter of this organization and its executive guidelines shall be prepared by the interior minister and be passed by the Council of Ministers.

#### **Less Than 8 Percent of 1988 Projects Operational**

90:AS0094K London KEYHAN in Persian  
24 May 90 p 4

[Text] Due to the inability of the officials in planning reconstruction projects and the widespread shortcomings in the areas of economy, finance, the work force, raw materials, and machinery, a substantial part of the

reconstruction projects planned by the regime are never implemented. According to reports from Tehran, the results of an evaluation, which was conducted by experts of the Plan and Budget Organization, show that only during 1367 [21 March 1988-20 March 1989], from all the reconstruction projects announced by the government, less than eight percent reached operational stage.

Nili, the deputy administrator of the Islamic Republic's Plan and Budget Organization, in a trip to Ahvaz to participate in the sessions of the Administrative Council of Khuzestan, in a gathering of officials, said that presently the government has 5,000 billion rials worth of unfinished projects. [He added that] if these projects do not reach operational stage, they will result in annual late charges of 500 billion rials. In another part of his speech, this official announced that the volume of the current year's national reconstruction budget is about 1,670 billion rials. He added that this level shows a 60 percent increase compared to the 1367 [21 March 1988-20 March 1989] figures.

The Plan and Budget Organization's deputy administrator added: "In order to secure the provision of the needed materials for the national reconstruction projects, \$1.2 billion has been considered. Also, \$1.4 billion has been allocated for the [purchase of] agricultural equipment."

A recent traveler from Tehran told KEYHAN's correspondent that the Islamic regime has failed in all economic areas and presently—by resorting to various propaganda tools and the mass media—the officials continue their efforts to keep the people busy by false and empty promises regarding implementation of reconstruction projects and programs for economic expansion. This traveler added: "The leaders of the Tehran regime are only capable of talking, promising, and lying to the people. Although the government controlled radio, television, and newspapers continue to report on the implementation of various reconstruction projects and the fight against unemployment, inflation, high prices, and the resolution of other economic problems, so far no practical and effective steps have been taken in the economic or social areas."

#### **\*Special Provisions Extended to Returning Doctors**

90AS0094P Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 28 Apr 90 p 2

[Text] A banquet held at the Iranian mission headquarters at the UN on the occasion of the blessed celebration of 'Id al-Fitr was attended by a large number of Iranian medical doctors and [members of] the Iranian political delegation that was in New York to participate in the special session of the UN General Assembly.

According to the Islamic Republic News Agency, in this gathering, which was held for the first time, Dr. Kamal Kharrazi, Iran's permanent representative, in a short speech greeted the Iranian doctors and expressed hope that Iranian society can benefit more from the services of Iranian doctors abroad. Dr. Velayati, the minister of foreign affairs, in a speech explained the situation of the

Islamic Republic of Iran and analyzed several noticeable characteristics of our country for the audience.

Velayati then referred to the issues of Iranian doctors in the United States and promised to provide adequate facilities to ease the traveling of the doctors to their homeland.

He said: We do not force anyone to return to his homeland. It is our view that whoever has a sense of responsibility must also serve his religion and homeland and the Islamic Republic of Iran is ready to provide the facilities.

This report indicates that Iranian doctors who were happy about holding this gathering circled around the minister of foreign affairs in groups and talked about their issues and problems.

Some of the doctors ask that consulate difficulties for regular visits to Iran be resolved. Another doctor told the minister of foreign affairs that holding this gathering provided the Iranian doctors with the means to contact Iranian institutions. Some participants requested that similar gatherings be held and possibly a regular schedule be given to this.

Also, all the present doctors were pleased with the idea of this gathering and were thankful for the attention given to them by the Islamic Republic.

#### **\*Students Object to Palestinians at Universities**

90AS0094J London KEYHAN in Persian  
24 May 90 p 2

[Text] In objection to the recent law passed by the Islamic Consultative Majles for the acceptance of Palestinian applicants to Iranian universities, students of the University of Tehran and the University of Tabriz protested and conducted sporadic demonstrations on the campuses.

Protests by the students of Tehran University and the University of Tabriz were held on 22 and 23 Ordybehesht [12 and 13 May], three days after the said law was passed by the Islamic Majles, and the protesters requested that the law be nullified.

The objection of university students to the allocation of a quota for the admittance of Palestinian applicants to [Iranian] universities takes place at a time when, for most areas of study, according to the administrator of the University Entrance Examination Organization, in the next academic year only one out of every 60 applicants will be admitted to universities and institutions of higher education. At the same time, a noticeable percentage of the quota for admission to universities have been allocated for members of the families connected with the regime, and most of the talented students are deprived of university education under the excuse of lacking ideological conformity.

According to the law passed by the Islamic Consultative Majles on 19 Ordybehesht [9 May], the Ministries of Culture and Higher Education and Health Treatment, and Medical Education are obligated to determine and set aside

an annual quota for the education of Palestinian applicants in Iranian universities and institutions of higher education. The tuitions and educational expenses of the Palestinians will be paid by the said ministries.

The mass objection and demonstrations by students in Tehran and Tabriz ended without any clashes with Hezbollah agents and Revolutionary Guards.

### Pakistan

#### Indian Response to Talks Proposal Appreciated

BK2006161890 Delhi Domestic Service in English  
1530 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] Islamabad has conveyed to New Delhi its appreciation of the Indian response for conducting the secretary-level talks between the two countries. Pakistan's reaction has been conveyed through Mr. J.N. Dixit, Indian high commissioner in Islamabad, by the Pakistani Foreign Office.

Our Islamabad correspondent, Suresh Chopra, reports that a seven-point agenda for talks has been prepared which is largely based on the package of confidence-building measures submitted by India to Pakistan last month. The venue and dates of the talks are being finalized by mutual consultations. The Pakistani media has also unanimously welcomed India's response.

#### Iran's Velayati Continues Official Visit

##### Calls for Ties With Soviet Republics

BK2006053090 London BBC World Service in English  
0215 GMT 20 Jun 90

[From the "Newsreel" program]

[Text] Iran's Foreign Minister Dr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati has called for closer links between Iran, Pakistan and Turkey and the Asian republics of the Soviet Union. Speaking in Islamabad after the first ministerial meeting of the Economic Cooperation Organization, which groups Iran with Pakistan and Turkey, Dr. Velayati stressed the need for unity among Muslims worldwide, but said that Iran did not wish to interfere in the internal affairs of any country. Lyce Doucet reports from Islamabad:

[Begins Doucet recording] Iran, Turkey and Pakistan formed a regional economic organization in the late 60's, but it lapsed after the Iranian revolution and has only been revived in the last few years, culminating in this week's ministerial meeting. Dr. Velayati called it an important first step toward greater regional cooperation. They had done a very good job, he said, setting up seven committees in areas ranging from telecommunications to energy. He spoke of possible gas pipelines from Iran which has the world's second largest gas reserves to Turkey and Pakistan. He spoke of deep cultural ties between these neighbors who represent 20 percent of the world's Muslims. Dr. Velayati stressed the need for unity among Muslims worldwide.

Asked whether Iran still believed in exporting its Islamic revolution and whether this could affect cooperation between more secular Turkey as well as Pakistan, Dr. Velayati said the revolution has already been exported, adding one did not decide or not decide to export it since it was done culturally, he said, not by guns. But, he said, this, including Iran's restrictions against loans carrying interest, would not affect economic cooperation. He also spoke of greater exchanges with the Muslim republics in Central Asia, but he stressed that Iran did not wish to interfere in the internal affairs of the Soviet Union. [end recording]

#### Discusses Relations With Yaqub Khan

LD2006090290 Tehran IRNA in English 0607 GMT  
20 Jun 90

[Text] Islamabad, June 20, IRNA—Foreign ministers of Iran and Pakistan in a meeting here Tuesday afternoon [19 June] discussed bilateral relations, regional and international issues and ways of strengthening regional cooperation within the framework of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) grouping Iran, Pakistan and Turkey. Iranian Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati heading a delegation arrived here Sunday night [17 June] for the first ministerial session of ECO and also to discuss Afghanistan issue with Pakistani high-ranking officials and the Pakistan-based Afghan mujahideen leaders.

Both ministers expressed the hope that Tehran-Islamabad economic ties will be expanded and deepen within the framework of decisions adopted in the two countries' joint economic commission.

"We believe that exchange of delegations, especially high-level ones, will further promote these relations," Velayati stressed.

Pakistani Minister Shahabzada Yaqub Khan told Velayati, "Islamabad attaches special importance to its ties with Iran," and added that the Pakistani president will visit Tehran in the near future."

On Afghanistan issue, the two ministers believed that Afghanistan developments are closely related to national security of the two neighbouring Iran and Pakistan. As a principle Iran cannot remain indifferent towards the fate of the world Muslims and this is spelled out in Iran's Constitution and foreign policy, Velayati stressed adding, "The Afghan issue must be settled with respect to the viewpoints of the Afghan people."

On Iran-Iraq peace talks, he said, "Iran welcomes any positive move within the framework of the U.N. Resolution 598 and under the auspices of the U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar."

#### Talks With Afghan Mujahidin

LD2006115990 Tehran IRNA in English 1013 GMT  
20 Jun 90

[Text] Islamabad, June 20, IRNA—Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and the leaders of the Afghan

Muslim groups discussed recent regional and international developments in connection with the issue of Afghanistan here Tuesday night. Unity of Afghan militant forces and future elections in Afghanistan were other topics of discussion.

Velayati and several leaders of the Islamic Unity Party of Afghanistan arrived here Sunday night [17 June] to hold talks with the Peshawar-based leaders of the Afghan mujahideen.

Referring to the unity of Afghan militant forces in Tehran, Velayati expressed hope that the move would be a prelude to the overall unity of the Afghan forces. Velayati called for further vigilance of the Afghans and the mujahideen in the present crucial juncture.

Meanwhile, leaders of the Afghan mujahideen lauded Iran's stance toward unity of Muslims, especially those in Afghanistan.

On future elections in Afghanistan, leader of the 'Harakat-e Enqelab-e Eslami' (Islamic Revolution Movement) of Afghanistan Mawlawi Nasrullah Mansur said that presence of any non-Islamic party in the future government of Afghanistan will not be acceptable.

#### Discusses Proposal To End Afghan War

BK2106050690 London BBC World Service in English  
0215 GMT 21 Jun 90

[From the "Newsreel" program]

[Text] Iran has made a new proposal for talks to end the fighting in Afghanistan. The Iranian foreign minister, Dr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati, said only neighboring countries directly affected by the Afghan war should take part and he ruled out any role for Saudi Arabia and the United States. He was speaking to Lyce Doucet in Islamabad:

[Begin Doucet recording] Last year, Iran proposed a conference of neighboring countries involving Iran, Pakistan, and the Soviet Union. It was rejected by Islamabad which said any conference should include the United States with which it works closely on Afghan policy. This new proposal also seeks to exclude the Americans and Saudi Arabia, whose influence Tehran wants to limit in neighboring Afghanistan. It also tries to divert Pakistan from its current policy of encouraging guerrilla leaders based here to hold some kind of selection process inside Afghanistan to choose a more representative leadership. Iran does not recognize the guerrillas' current political structure which is described as an interim government and is believed to have advised mujahidin groups based in Tehran not to join it.

Speaking in a BBC interview, Dr. Velayati said if Afghans wanted Iran's support, they should create a government based on a majority of Afghan votes in polls under United Nations supervision.

Asked whether President Najibullah's party, the PDPA [People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan], could take

part, Dr. Velayati said its members could participate as individuals, indicating Iran's preference for polls which avoid the intense rivalry among guerrilla parties and between them and the PDPA. But, he said Iran did not want to impose its views, saying details could be worked out at a conference attended by mujahidin, other representatives of the Afghan people, and neighboring countries. Dr. Velayati stressed there should be one person, one vote—a position at odds with some guerrilla leaders who reject general elections and any participation by women, preferring a traditional selection procedure which could, depending on local conditions, involve the male population of a village or only chosen elders and other local leaders. [end recording]

#### Talks With Bhutto, Departs

LD2006191290 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian  
1630 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] The correspondent for the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran reports from Islamabad on the conclusion of Foreign Minister Velayati's visit to Pakistan, where he took part in the meeting of ECO [Economic Cooperation Organization]:

[Correspondent] Our country's foreign minister, 'Ali Akbar Velayati, who was visiting Pakistan, met with Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto before his departure this evening, and discussed bilateral issues with her in particular the recent meeting of the ECO ministers and Afghan problems.

In that meeting, in which the Pakistani ministers for foreign affairs, interior, justice, information and publications and also the ministers of water and electricity and energy were present, Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, expressing pleasure about the success of the first meeting of the ECO ministers, hoped that the three countries of Iran, Turkey and Pakistan will make efforts to further expand their economic and cultural ties within the framework of that organization.

The Pakistani prime minister also announced her country's readiness to begin the three countries studies on creation of the Iranian gas pipeline to Pakistan and Turkey. In that meeting the Pakistani prime minister also referred to the problem of Afghanistan and the necessity that the two countries of Iran and Pakistan cooperate to help the Afghan mujahidin establish an Islamic government in their country. She said: Iran and Pakistan should be prepared to stand by the Afghan mujahidin and help them.

In that meeting, our country's foreign minister announced: The people and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran do not want anything but the Afghan people's prosperity. We have striven in that regard and those efforts have recently come to fruition through the unity of the Afghan mujahidin who are resident in Iran. We are pleased that the mujahidin residing in Iran have begun their basic discussions with

the mujahidin resident in Peshawar and we hope that those discussions are fruitful.

Velayati added: The failure of Afghanistan's former consultative council should be a good lesson to all and we believe that all Afghan mujahidin and the mujahidin residing in Peshawar, should face problems with better understanding and realism. Velayati added: The mujahidin should condemn any proposal or plan that undermines the rights of the Muslim people of Afghanistan.

At the end of the meeting, the Pakistani prime minister thanked the people and the officials of our country for their kind hospitality during her visit to Iran and once again repeated her invitation to Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the Iranian president, to visit Pakistan.

Following their meeting with the Pakistani prime minister, Velayati and the accompanying delegation left that country. Pakistani Foreign Affairs Minister Sahabzadah Yaqub Khan saw them leave.

Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran—Islamabad.

#### Businessmen To Strike Against Budget 21 Jun

BK2106020490 Hong Kong AFP in English 1815 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] Karachi, June 20 (AFP)—Pakistani businessmen and traders are to begin an indefinite strike Thursday [21 June] to protest against tax proposals in the government's budget for fiscal 1990-91, business sources said. The business community opposes the introduction of a general sales tax.

The decision to strike was taken at a traders meeting here late Wednesday [20 June] when the businessmen voted to strike despite a government offer of talks on Saturday [16 June]. The strike would lead to a daily loss of 560 million rupees (25.45 million dollars) in government revenues, they said.

Meanwhile in Punjab's industrial city of Faisalabad, 300 small shoemakers struck Wednesday to protest against the proposed new tax.

#### Bhutto's Husband Sues Opposition for Defamation

BK1906162290 Hong Kong AFP in English 1557 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Karachi, June 19 (AFP)—The husband of Pakistan's Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has decided to sue 19 opposition leaders and 10 newspaper editors for alleged defamation and slander, press reports said here Tuesday [19 June]. Asif Zardari was accused by the opposition leaders of making "illicit" financial deals and "extracting various favours."

Mr. Zardari has demanded 100 million rupees (4.5 million dollars) damages besides an apology he wants published in newspapers within and outside the country.

Those to be sued by Mr. Zardari include Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, the leader of the Combined Opposition Parties (COP) in the National assembly, and Mian Nawaz Sharif, chief minister of Punjab and president of the Islamic Democratic Alliance (IJI), who is the archrival of Ms. Bhutto, the reports said.

Mr. Zardari's lawyer was quoted as saying that those against who notice was served "have collectively or individually, for malafide reasons and personal bias, and without an iota of evidence, levelled baseless charges of corruption and malpractices" in order to defame his client and his family.

The opposition alleged that Mr. Zardari was using his position to secure bank loans through proxy and commission government deals for various projects.

Ms. Bhutto, in rejecting the charges against her family as baseless, had indicated legal action against the alleged slander.

#### Locally Assembled Radars Given to Army

BK2006102090 Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 20 Jun 90 p 6

[Text] Islamabad—The Minister of State for Defence, Colonel (Retd.) Ghulam Sarwar Cheema, has said that the Government is committed to the development of defence production in order to attain self-reliance and it will extend all possible assistance for achieving this end.

He was speaking as chief guest at handing over ceremony of first batch of locally assembled LAADS Radars and Speech Encryption Equipment S.R.-320 to the army at the Margala Electronics on Tuesday [19 June].

Commending the dedicated and concerted efforts of the planners, engineers and technicians of the Margala Electronics in carrying out a number of radar projects successfully, the minister said that production of LAADS Radars is another milestone in the progressive establishment facility of microwave electronic in particular, and electronics in general, in the country which will definitely enhance the defence production capability. He, however, stressed the need for further intensive research and development so as to march forward in promoting the indigenous efforts in redesigning and manufacture of electronic system in the country.

In his speech, the minister also referred to the major defence projects conceived during the People's Government of Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto. He also thanked the friends from USA and Sweden for their cooperation and assistance to Margala Electronics.

#### Lahore Bomb Blast Kills Four, Injures Seven

BK2006155690 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] There was a bomb blast in a (?tin) melting furnace in [words indistinct] in Amin Bagh area on Ravi Road in

Lahore this afternoon, in which four persons were killed and seven injured. Of the killed, one was the owner of the furnace and the other three were workers. The injured have been immediately rushed to the hospital. The condition of the three injured persons is said to be serious.

Punjab Governor Retired General Tikka Khan has expressed deep sorrow and anguish over loss of life in the blast.

### Sri Lanka

#### Troops Break Rebel Siege; Fighting Subsides

BK2006120090 Hong Kong AFP in English 1551 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Excerpt] Colombo, June 20 (AFP)—Government troops ended the siege of a major camp in northern Sri Lanka Friday [20 June], as hundreds of Tamil rebels reportedly took to the jungles elsewhere in the island to renew a hit-and-run campaign.

Four government soldiers were killed and about 20 wounded when they smashed through guerrilla lines outside the Palaly base on the Jaffna peninsula, military officials here said, after days of rocket and mortar fire. A military spokesman said the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) were believed to have suffered heavy casualties when troops fanned out, torching and destroying their well-fortified bunkers. The Palaly base, the only airport on the Jaffna peninsula, was earlier showered with gunfire, mortars and rocket-propelled grenades on the fourth straight day of fighting between LTTE rebels and government forces.

The fighting, which began June 11 but stopped briefly following a truce Saturday [16 June], has left at least 1,000 people including 600 guerrillas dead so far, officials and Tamil sources said. A government spokesman said some 100 soldiers had been killed.

The Tiger guerrillas continued sporadic shelling of the Portuguese-built Jaffna fort, which houses another army camp, and were seeking to break in by using bulldozers, he said. He added that a young LTTE boy strapped with explosives had tried to scale the wall of the star-shaped (?fort) with a rope ladder, but was shot dead. "We saw other boys video-filming the whole thing."

There has been no independent confirmation of the extent of fighting in Jaffna, an exclusively Tamil-inhabited region which has been a stronghold of the LTTE since the mid-1980's.

But fighting appeared to be subsiding in the multi-racial Eastern Province, where the military spokesman said security forces had secured all three major towns—Trincomalee, Batticaloa and Ampara.

"We have established ourselves in Batticaloa town," he said, "and are trying to move out."

Batticaloa residents contacted by telephone from here said the army was asking leading citizens in the town to persuade the hundreds of Tamils who have taken shelter in schools, churches and Hindu temples in fear to return home.

"Some people are now on the streets," said a resident. "And we haven't heard shelling for a long time."

Batticaloa town has been without electricity since fighting started.

But military sources said the LTTE was still controlling Moslem-majority Kalmunai town, where rebels reportedly torched several shops in the main market after looting them. "We might face problems when we try entering Kalmunai," where the LTTE allegedly robbed three state-run banks of 20 million rupees on Monday and Tuesday, a senior military official said.

Tamil and official sources here said that the subsiding of fighting indicated that the LTTE's hundreds of heavily-armed guerrillas, mostly in their teens, had begun taking to the jungles to renew a bloody bush war.

"They can't withstand the pressure and so are withdrawing (into forests)," said a spokesman for the rival Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO). "And they are now engaged in last-minute massive extortions and looting." [passage omitted]

#### Government Troops Control Major Northeast Towns

BK2106034690 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 21 Jun 90

[Text] Reports from Sri Lanka say that the government forces have further consolidated their position in the northern part of the island, causing heavy casualty among the LTTE militants. The situation in the east is also reported to be improving as the militants have retreated to their jungle hideouts.

Security forces destroyed the LTTE positions in the north of Jaffa overlooking the Kankasanturai Harbor and are now in control of the area. Government forces blew up a boat in the Jaffna Lagoon carrying explosives for the militants. The LTTE, however, continued to attack the Jaffna Fort with mortars and gunfire.

In another major success, the security forces have freed the Kiran Camp in Batticaloa District and the soldiers trapped inside without water, food, and medicine have been provided immediate relief.

The Sri Lankan troops are now in control of all the three major towns of Batticaloa, Trincomalee, and Amparai. Senior officials have said that over 70 militants were killed, most of them in Jaffna, in the counteroffensives since Tuesday.

Meanwhile, the government has put into operation contingency plans to protect all government buildings and installations as a precautionary measure.

In another development, the foreign secretary, Mr. Bernard Tilakaratna, has appealed to the heads of foreign missions in Colombo to assist the people affected by the recent militant attacks with medical supply and food.

#### Minister Says LTTE 'Supremo' Prabhakaran Dead

BK2106090990 Hong Kong AFP in English 0854 GMT  
21 Jun 90

[Text] Colombo, June 21 (AFP)—Velupillai Prabhakaran, the legendary chieftain of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) guerrillas, is dead, a senior minister alleged Thursday [21 June], calling on him to come out of his jungle hideout if he was alive.

"Prabhakaran is not alive," Minister of State for Defence Ranjan Wijeratne told reporters here, and added: "I have reliable reports that he was killed by Mahattaya," the LTTE's deputy leader. "If he is alive, he should come out", the minister added.

Mr. Wijeratne could not say when Mr. Prabhakaran was killed by Mahattaya, the nom de guerre of Gopalasamy Mahedrarajah, who is also head of the political wing of the LTTE. Asked how Colombo's chief negotiator, Justice Minister Shahul Hameed, met Mr. Prabhakaran in Jaffna recently if he was dead, Mr. Wijeratne replied: "The LTTE has a double."

Mr. Prabhakaran, 35, founded the LTTE in May 1976, and within a decade transformed it into the most powerful militant group in Sri Lanka. In the mid-1980's, it virtually controlled the island's northern Jaffna peninsula and is bidding to do the same again now. The LTTE supremo has survived years of bloody hostilities, including more than two years of guerrilla war with Indian troops deployed in the island in mid-1987 in an attempt to crush Tamil separatism, earning himself a reputation for invincibility.

#### Reports Troops Liberate East

BK2106091390 Hong Kong AFP in English 0836 GMT  
21 Jun 90

[Text] Colombo, June 21 (AFP)—Government troops have "liberated" Sri Lanka's east, but sporadic fighting against diehard Tamil rebels is still raging in the northern region, a senior minister said here Thursday [21 June].

"We have liberated the entire Eastern Province," Minister of State for Defence Ranjan Wijeratne said on the 11th day of fighting between troops and the powerful Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE). Mr. Wijeratne said the eastern districts of Batticaloa, Ampara and Trincomalee were under the control of the Armed Forces and policemen driven out of the region would return soon to restore law and order.

LTTE guerrillas were still shelling a key army camp in northern Jaffna peninsula, a rebel stronghold, while sporadic to heavy fighting was raging elsewhere in the area, he said. Mr. Wijeratne added that the guerrillas, many in their

teens, had retreated into the jungles in Batticaloa, confirming reports from Tamil sources that the LTTE was planning a long-drawn out separatist campaign.

"We have several fronts" in the north, he said, adding that there were stragglers in the forested Vavuniya region and that several battles had been reported in the adjoining Killinochchi area.

The minister could not give precise casualty figures but said the LTTE, the most powerful Tamil group in the island, had lost at least 195 cadres while 155 policemen had been killed across the Tamil-majority northeast. Mr. Wijeratne had earlier given a figure of 600 rebel fatalities.

"The LTTE are fascist dictators. The Tamil people are going to be liberated (from them)," he said, accusing the Tigers of resorting to chemical warfare and of breaking a ceasefire which went into effect Saturday [16 June].

"The civilian population is fed up with the LTTE extortionists, murderers and so on," he added.

Mr. Wijeratne said the government opened peace talks with the LTTE in April 1989 despite the group's character because it wanted to give an opportunity to the Tigers to return to the democratic mainstream.

He said government troops had adhered to Saturday's truce deadline of 6 p.m. (1230 GMT) when the LTTE came to army camps and took away their wounded but did not allow the security forces to collect their casualties. The ceasefire was agreed to following seven hours of talks between top LTTE leaders and Federal Justice Minister Shahul Hameed.

Mr. Wijeratne said the LTTE used chemical bombs on a strategically-located army camp at Kiran in Batticaloa and the affected soldiers were being examined in hospitals to determine the nature of their injuries.

The minister also paid an indirect compliment to Indian troops for having "decimated the LTTE" during their more than two year military campaign from October 1987 in the northeast. "The LTTE now has baby brigades," he said, adding that with such fighters the Sri Lankan Government forces could not be taken on. India deployed some 50,000 troops here under a July 1987 accord but cost nearly 1,200 men before pulling out the last of its forces in March. The LTTE, some of whose fighters are barely 14 years of age, has been in virtual control of the Northern Province since the Indian pullout.

#### Indian State Hides Sri Lankan Tamil Refugees

BK2106093190 Hong Kong AFP in English 0751 GMT  
21 Jun 90

[Excerpt] Calcutta, India, June 21 (AFP) - The eastern Indian state of Orissa has shifted 400 Sri Lankan Tamils belonging to several militant factions to undisclosed hideouts following fears of a massacre by rival Tamil Tigers. A state government spokesman said the Tamils were removed from a temporary refugee camp Wednesday [20

June] noon following death threats against them by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), the dominant Tamil militant group in Sri Lanka.

The 400 had been ferried to India immediately before the Indian troop withdrawal from Sri Lanka in March this year for fear that if they stayed they would be killed by the Tigers. The LTTE had circulated pamphlets in the camp threatening to kill the members of other Tamil militant factions living there, the official said.

The LTTE is widely believed to have engineered the massacre of [word indistinct] members of the Eelam People's Revolutionary Front (EPRLF), a pro-Indian Sri Lankan Tamil militant group, Tuesday night [19 June], in southern Tamil Nadu state capital Madras.

Tamil militants belonging to the less-powerful EPRLF, Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO), Eelam National Democratic Liberation Front (ENDLF), and People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam (PLOTE) were taken from Koraput District's Malkangiri camp to an undisclosed hideout after the death threat, he said.

"The decision (to move them) was taken after we were told by the Tamil Nadu government to provide safety to the militants to avoid bloodshed," the Orissa government spokesman said by telephone from the state capital Bhubaneswar. He said the sudden decision to remove them had scuttled government plans to shift the refugees to the southern coastal state of Kerala which had agreed to accommodate them.

"Such plans have been put off indefinitely. We cannot allow the refugees to die on their way to Kerala, if such killings can take place in the heart of Madras City it can

happen anywhere," the spokesman said, refusing to disclose the location of the hideouts.

"The militants will stay there as long as the Indian Government thinks it is necessary. We are working in close coordination with the Tamil Nadu government and the centre (government)," the spokesman said. [passage omitted]

#### **TELO Issues Statement Supporting Government**

*BK2106112990 Colombo International Service  
in English 1045 GMT 21 Jun 90*

[Text] The Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization [TELO], in a news release, says it is extending its unconditional and unstinted support to the government in the ongoing war waged against it by the LTTE terrorists. The TELO says, as a democratic political party, it is their bounden duty to oppose the fascist terror unleashed by the LTTE on the people and the government of this country. It says the treacherous LTTE seek absolute authority in the northeastern province in the form of a separate and sovereign state ruled by its warlords. The Tamil-speaking people have always been yearning for peace. They have suffered enough. Yet, the power-hunger leadership of the terrorist LTTE has mercilessly shattered the fragile peace recently experienced by the people.

The TELO wishes to state categorically that the ongoing war is not between the Sinhalese and the Tamils but between the democratic forces and the fascist terrorists. The ruthless LTTE is desperately attempting to provoke a communal backlash in the north by resorting to reprehensible acts of barbarity. Its sinister motive is to boost and justify its false propaganda at the international level. They have appealed to the government to ensure the protection of the Tamil-speaking people both in the north and east and outside.